De Klerk rejects majority rule

CAPE TOWN (R) — President F.W. De Klerk rejected black majority rule in South Africa but said apartheld must end. At the start of a four-day parliamentary debate Tuesday, he promised to create "a new and just South Africa." But he did not amounce new measures to dismantle apartheid, the 42-year-old system of racial segregation that made the republic an international outcast. He demanded an "unequivocal commitment" from the African National Congress (ANC) of Nelson Mandela to give up violence in its struggle against white minority rule. De Kierk, who freed Mandela from 27 years jall and legalised the ANC and other anti-apartheid groups two months ago, made clear he saw no future for the existing apartheid-based system which separates whites, blacks, Indians, and people of mixed race to perpetuate white power. "The new South Africa will belong to all its people, will offer complete freedom, security and prosperity... (and) will not fall prey to a section of the population," he declared. His National Party (NP) would reject majority rule in forthcoming negotiations with black leaders.

Volume 15 Number 4369

AMMAN WEDNESDAY, APRIL 18, RAMADAN 23, 1410

Price: Jordan 100 fils; Sandi Arabia 1.50 riyals; UAE 1.50 dirhams

U.S.: No return to UNESCO

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> WASHINGTON (AP) - Secretary of State James Baker Tuesday ruled out the possibility of an early U.S. return to U.N. Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation (UNESCO) membership, saying the U.N. body is still mismanaged and excessively politicised. Baker said in a report to Congress that UNESCO Director General Federico Mayor continues to be haunted by his reputation as a "wellntioned but poor administrator." Six years ago the administration of then-President Ronald Reagan withdrew from UN-ESCO," Britain and Singapore quickly followed suit. Renewed membership would cost the United States about \$50 million annually. Japan, UNESCO's largest contributor, recently indicated that it, too, may cease making payments.

iran seizes 17 Pakistani trawiers

KARACHI (R) — Iran has seized 17 Pakistani trawlers for fishing in Iranian waters, the official APP news agency said Tuesday. It said Iran had seized about 70 Pakistani fishing boats during the last two years. A spokesman for the Karachi fish harbour said some crew from the seized trawlers had been sent to Karachi aboard three boats. No further details were immediately avail-

Islamic group says members arrested

AMMAN (R) - A Jordanian fundamentalist group said Tues-day eight of its members had been arrested while distributing leaflets about the banned organisation. The radical Islamic Liberation Party, Hizb Al Tahrir Al Islami, said in a statement the arrests were made on March 23. An official source confirmed the arrests but gave no further de-

israeii drowned, 2 swim to safety

CAIRO (R) — An Israeli was drowned and two others swam to safety when their boat sank in a squall off Egypt's Red Sea coast, the Israeli embassy said Tuesday. The incident took place about two kilometres offshore from the border tourist resort of Taba Monday. The body of a man was recovered on Tuesday morning, police sources said. The survivors, a man and a woman, swam to the shore and were driven to the border checkpoint in a taxi where they were questioned and allowed to go home, the sources

Ethiopia rebeis free 2 Cuban captives

KHARTOUM (AP) - Two Cuban medical workers held captwee by the Ethiopian rebels were micased and flown to North Yemen Tuesday, the official Sudan News Agency reported. It said the government of Sudan and worth Yemen have mediated the release of the two Cubans. North emen Ambassador to Sudan Abdul Salam Al Anisi, accompamed the freed Cubans to his country's capital Sanaa Tuesday, the agency said. The rebel Oromo Liberation Front will release four other Cuban medical worker later, the agency said without giving details. Ethiopian rebel sources in Khartoum were not immediately available for com-

Mass protest against Soviet ministers

MOSCOW (R) - About 10,000 people demonstrated in defence of two corruption investigators outside the Kremlin Tuesday while the Soviet parliament debated whether they broke regulations in their pursuit of top-level offenders. The Supreme Soviet, the country's standing parliatheat, was debating whether to lift parliamentary immunity from Telman Gdlyan and Nikolai Iva-Boy - one of the most closely watched harries between emerging radicals and the Kremlin establishment.

King, Arafat stress common position, goals

By a Jordan Times Staff Writer with agency dispatches

AMMAN — His Majesty King Hussein and Palestinian President Yasser Arafat Tuesday discussed means to counter Soviet Jeiwish immigration to Palestine and plans for convening an Arab sommit.

A statement carried by the Jordan News Agency, Petra, said the two leaders stressed the importance of holding an Arab summit to discuss the repercussions of Soviet Jewish immigration to Palestine and to formulate a unified Arab stand towards Arab and international developments.

The closed meeting was followed by broader talks attended by senior Jordanian officials and a delegation accompanying Ara-fat, chairman of the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO). King Hussein was quoted by Petra as making welcoming remarks in which he stressed the common destiny of the Jordanian

"Our joint struggle, which uni-fied us in the past, will remain a reunifying factor always," King Hussein said. "Our joint stand in the first frontline is our destiny and an honour bestowed upon us by our duty towards our homeland and nation," be added.

"We had to fight many battles in the past and many other battles might be imposed upon us in the future... we are going to fight these hattles together... we are commrades in one march," King Hussein told the PLO delegation.

King Hussein instructed the government to discuss all issues of joint concern with the PLO delegation and to coordinate efforts, particularly political and information issues to promote Arab national causes.

The dangers which confront us not only threaten the Arah land in Palestine but also the Arab depth," the King said in his

(Continued on page 5)



His Majesty King Hussein Tuesday greets Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat (Photo by Yousef Al

Arafat's schedule — as elusive as peace in Mideast

AMMAN (AP) — Yasser Arafat sometime seems as elusive as Middle East peace itself.

Sweden's foreign minister, Sten Andersson, flew to Cairo Monday for a meeting with the Palestine Liberation Organisation chairman.

Arafat, he told reporters at Cairo airport, would arrive "momentarily."

At roughly the same time, Prime Minister Mudar Badran was arriving at an airport in Amman to greet the Palestinian lead-

Arafat was not yet due, he was told. Go back. Obviously miffed,

Badran returned more than an hour later. Finally Arafat's Iraqi ict touched down. Without Ara-

The pilot leaned from the window and waved his hand at the officials lined along the red carpet in a motion of "go back." Unbeknownst to the most senior Jordanian officials, Arafat

had chosen to land and deplane and at Queen Alia International Airport south of Amman rather than at the Marqa military airport closer to town where waited Badran and company.

(Continued on page 3)

Assad signals welcome to reconciliation effort

DAMASCUS (Agencies) -President Hafez Al Assad of Syria, in remarks carried Tuesday by the official press, hinted that be would welcome a reconciliation effort with Iraq to help the Arab World face myriad prob-

The Syrian president, speaking late Monday to a gathering of religious clerics, did not mention Iraq or its President Saddam Hussein by name.

"Considering the dangers to come, we appeal for Arab solidarity and we should make an effort for it," said the president. speaking to the group gathered for an iftar.

"If we do nothing, if we don't unite, the price will be catastrophe," he said.

Foreign Minister Marwan Al Oasem said last week that Jordan

was again trying to reconcile

Syria and Iraq. The leaders of the Arab World have not had a regular summit meeting for almost a decade, although they have called extraordinary sessions to discuss pressing problems.

Various Arab states have called for a summit this year to discuss the Middle East peace process, the hundreds of thousands of Soviet Jews expected to immigrate to Israel and the Arab League efforts to end the Lebanese war among other

"Appeals and slogan are not enough to achieve badly needed Arab solidarity," the Syrian president said. "Solidarity is not something you can buy. It must be based on everyone's convic-

Tense calm marks April unrest anniversary in south

By Lamis K. Andoni, Ghadeer Taher and P.V. Vivekanand

MAAN — The first anniversary Tuesday of the price riots that shook Jordan in April last year appeared to have passed quietly in this southern town, with very little outward signs of popular sentiments, but one could feel the tension that gripped the town as it marked the first year of the violent

In Karak, another southern town ravaged by the unrest, the demonstration by about 100 people, according to official sources.

The crowd gathered near the

main mosque in Karak and marched down the street after midday prayers, said a senior police official who spoke to the Jordan Times on condition of anonymity. "It was a very peaceful protest and the protesters dispersed with no trouble whatsoever," the official said. In Maan, apart from the broken

glass of one of the government buildings, there is hardly any sign left of the violence which swept the small town ou April 17 last year. The quiet dusty streets in no way indicate that they once were transformed into a battlefield with burning tyres, barrels and angry youths throwing stones at security men and burning government buildings

and even some commercial banks. Tuesday, in a warm day of Ramadan, the streets of Maan were almost empty and very calm. But journalists could not miss the underlying tension which some re-sidents did very little to hide. Small knots of two or three people them willing to talk to the press while others were not, Yet some others were visibly angry and frus-

happened? Where was the local press? You did not care about us then; you still don't. Go back to Amman and find something else to write about," shouted an angry

shopkeeper at journalists. shopkeeper at journalists.

Other shopkeepers and passersby msuccessfully tried to calm the
middle-aged man, who appeared
to be suppressing an outburst of
either tears or anger. But they
seemed essentially to share his

that people felt that they were neglected by Amman but now they feel better," Maan Deputy Yousef Al Adem told the Jordan Times in Amman. When told about the Maani shopkeeper's remarks to journalists, he agreed that feelings of negligence are still prevalent but stressed that there is less bitterness

than last year. Unlike most cities and major towns, Maan is basically conserva-tive and religious and it has never been a seat for organised political activities. Therefore the eruption of violent protests last April came

as an unpleasant surprise "It was the events of last April that inspired the need to renew the social contract," His Majesty King Hussein said in his address to the Royal Commission entrusted to draw up a national charter to reg-

ulate political life in the country It was basically a string of price increases which prompted taxi drivers, students and essentially most sectors in Maan to initiate a est which triggered a fullfledged campaign against official corruption and for wider popular

A year later, as the democratisa tion process in the country is in full swing, the winds of change have not yet reached the depth of this southern region. "We see some to our deputies in the parliament and complain but the economic hardship has not changed," a young Maani said.

According to Adem, "it is true that there are such sentiments but they are definitely milder after Prime Minister Mudar Badran's visit to the town, people felt that the government cares after all."

The government has agreed to a long awaited request by Maanis to open a branch of Muta University allocated funds for needed service projects in Maan.
"We bear promises and we are

waiting," a young man said Tues-day. But despite these frustrations there was no sign of any action although security officials who tense and on full alert. 'Maan has never been a hotbed

for competing parties or the left and we are not going to allow to he, it is against the nature of the people of Maan," Adem told the Jordan Times. Other sources said that over the

last two weeks various groups, some of them from outside Maan, had been trying to organise activities including a march and panel discussions in the town to comincinorate last year's events.

But traditionalist group and the Muslim Brotherhood, which were said to have some influence in the town, resisted. "Who said that we would like to

commemorate anything? We just want to forget about it," a conservative notable from Maan said. During the Jordan Times' short visit to Maan, what emerged was that some Maanis resist the glorification of last April's events as hypocrisy when expressed by politicians in Amman "who do not know anything about us."

Israelis shoot and wound 33 in Gaza

OCCUPIED GAZA (Agencies) Israeli soldiers shot and wounded at least 33 Palestinians in the occupied Gaza Strip Tuesday when nationalist protests erupted after troops lifted a hlanket curfew, hospital officials

"All the Strip was like hell," one resident said.

The 750,000 Palestinians in the Gaza Strip had been confined to their homes Monday for the second anniversary of the killing of Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) military commander Khalil Al Wazir (Abu Jihad), who Israel believed was directing the Palestinian urpsing.

The Gazans commemorated Abu Jihad's death a day late with marches in which they hoisted Palestinian flags and in stonethrowing protests which troops dispersed with tear-gas, rubber bullets and live ammunition, residents said.

Hospital officials said 20 Palestinians were wounded in Rafah, straddling the Israeli-Egyptian border, a flashpoint of

Israeli-Palestinian violence. 'Seven protesters were wounded in Gaza City and the rest of the casualties occurred in refugee

Ahn Jihad, a deputy of PLO Chairman Yasser Arafat, was gunned down by masked commandos at his Tunis home April 16. 1988

Israel has never acknowledged responsibility for the killing, but Israeli sources said the inner cabinet ordered the mission by a

Israel regarded Abu Jihad as the key planner of dozens of resistance operations inside Israel. Sources also stressed his role in the Palestinian revolt.

Hours after his killing Palestinians took to the streets in the occupied territories in one of the aprising's bloodiest days. Troops then shot and killed 17 Palestinians and wounded 100 in

Some 150 Arab women took part in sit-in at the international Red Cross office in Gaza City demanding Israel free all Palestinian political prisoners and improve conditions in its jails, resi-

Similar sit-ins were held in Arab Jerusalem and the West Bank town of Jenin in accordance with a call by underground leaders of the revolt to mark prison-

Iragis celebrate recapture of Fao

BAGHDAD (Agencies) - Iraqis awoke Tuesday to the sound of 21-gun salutes marking a Gulf war victory over Iran and heard their government warn Israel that it could be the next target of

Baghdad's military might.
"With our strength we liberated Fao and with this strength we confront Zionist challenges.' said a slogan repeatedly broad-

cast on television and radio. Iragi troops retook the sonthern peninsula of Fao from Iranian forces April 17, 1988, in some of

the fiercest fighting of their eightyear war. The victory was a turning-point in the conflict, which halted with a ceasefire four months later.

Flags flew from public huildings all over Iraq Tuesday, a public holiday. Artillery fired ceremonial salvoes and war documentaries were shown on television.

"Our forces kicked the Iranians out of Fao... and left them licking their wounds on the eastern bank of the Shatt Al Arab (waterway)," state radio said, quoting from a message delivered

King congratulates

AMMAN (Petra) — His Majesty King Hussein had a telehone conversation Tuesday with Iraqi President Saddam Hussein on the anniversary of Iraq's liberation of the Fao peninsula from Iranian occupation forces. King Hussein wished the president and the Iraqi people best wishes in his name and on behalf of the Jordanian people and govern-

by President Saddam Hussein on the day of the victory.

Baghdad's relations with Tehran remain sour but Israel has been the focus of Hussein's re-

On April 2 he announced that Iraq had hinary ebemical weapons and would "burn half of Israel" if the Jewish state attack-

Court orders eviction of hospice settlers

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM arrived at with "an improper use (Agencies) - A three-judge of procedures, to say the least. panel of an Israeli court Tuesday npheld an order to evict 150 Jewish settlers who moved into church-owned buildings in the Christian quarter of the walled Old City.

The settlement of the Jews under police guard only days before Easter raised tensions in the Old City.

Avraham Sochozolsky, a lawyer for the Greek Orthodox Church, said he would next ask police to carry out the order to evict the Jews from the 72-room complex owned by the church. It was not clear, however,

whether the Jewish settlers would be evicted immediately from the four buildings that once served as a church hospice. The lawyers for the settlers said

before the decision that they planned to appeal. They left the court just after the ruling. The decision came after a four-

hour, closed-door session. The judges' written ruling said

another court decision last Thursday to stay an eviction order was

The decision did not affect a separate court action in which the Greek Orthodox Church is seeking to prove that a former tenant in the complex leased the 100year-old buildings illegally to the

The settlers' move into the

complex near the Church of the Holy Sepulcher last Wednesday set off a protest demonstration the following day by about 200 Christian clerics and supporters. Police fired tear-gas when one

priest tore down a poster picturing a star of David that had been placed over a cross on the main door of the complex. Several churchmen, including Greek Ortbodox Patriarch

Diodorus I, collapsed from the tear-gas and were treated at a nearby clinic. There have been at least three

protests since, including one Tuesday in which Christian and Muslim Palestinians entered the

(Continued on page 5)

KURDI DRUGSTORE

Welcomes the delegates of Master Pharma (A member of the Chiesi Int'l Group) and wishes them a pleasant and fruitful stay in

One year after price riots in the south political reforms outpace economic changes

By Ghadeer Taber Jordan Times Staff Writer

AMMAN - On April 17, 1989, angry crowds in the southern town of Ma'an went on a rampage against government-imposed price in-creases agreed with the International Monetary Fund (IMF). After five days, the riots ended, but a year later, the political dust that was stirred by the April uprising, remains unsettled. The economic crisis which ignited it, along with the prescribed structural adjustment programme, remain a constant reminder of the end of an era of economic aberration and the beginning of the most important peacetime transformation in the

Kingdom's history. Since the riots, which had spread to several other townships in the south as well as to Salt. 20 kilometres from Amman, the Kingdom has witnessed two governments, the

first general elections in 22 years, the suspension of mar-tial law imposed in 1967, and the initiation of a democratisation process towards political pluralism. Accompanying the moves were the release of over 100 political detainees, lifting of travel and employment bans and steps towards the reinstatement of people dismissed

The process entered another phase last week with the appointment of a 60-member Royal Commission entrusted with drafting a national charter to govern not only political life and legalisation of political parties after a 32-year hiatus but also almost every aspect of

from jobs for political reasons.

life in the Kingdom. While political reforms have

been introduced at an accelerated pace, economic reforms have been slow, and mostly limited to containing the repercussions of the crisis which surfaced with the failure of the government to service a stag-

gering \$8.3 billion debt and a depleting foreign currency reserves which forced a forty per cent devaluation of the Jordanian dinar in the past two

"We are happy with the parliamentary life in the capital," said a taxi driver in Ma'an. "But nothing has really changed here in Ma'an. Most people understand economic correction is gradual but it is still the most pressing issue."

During the run-up to the Nov. 8 general elections, voters saw in the candidates solutions to political oppression and economic deterioration exacerbated by what is described by many experts as an unproductive and bloated bureaucracy fuelled by mounting unem-

Today, after a four-month session of Parliament, many realise that the legislative authority has its own limitations in solving the problems that have accumulated over the

Lower House of Parliament has effectively accelerated the process of political liberalisation, it has accomplished very little on the economic front. In January, the government

past two decades. While the

unveiled a recessionary budget which cut public and private consumption, depressed expenditure and promised increased internal revenues along the lines of a structural adjustment programme agreed upon with the IMF in April last year.

One of the main elements that Jordan is depending on to see it through its present difficulties is financial assistance from the Arab Gulf countries. Intense contacts are continuing with the Gulf states, and senior officials have expressed confidence that the Kingdom will receive the minimum financial aid from the Gulf as envisaged in the 1990 budget.

Although the economie situation and what it means to dominant concern of the society today, the newfound political freedoms are also seen as important.

"It is true that very little has been achieved by Parliament and the government concerning the economic situation in the country," said a former political detainee. "But it is blessing to be able to freely speak one's mind and espouse different ideologies."

Having delivered the country through the first general election — widely seen as the freest in the Arab World after taking over the belm in April 1989, Sharif Zeid Ben Shaker stepped down as transitionary prime minister in December and Mudar Badran, who has served two previous terms as premier, assumed

Badran, faced with a Parliament that housed the strongest

(Continued on page 5)

Friends urge British government to step up efforts to free hostage

appealed to the British government to step up efforts to secure the release of journalist John McCarthy who began his fifth year as a hostage in Lebanon Tuesday.

"We are not saying do a deal." perhaps they can sort it ont diplomatically," said McCartby's friend Jill Morrell.

"But we will not have any evidence of what has happened to John until negotiations begin. As we begin his fifth year of captivity. we say it is time to talk to resolve

Miss Morrell said the recent release of a French woman, her Belgian boyfriend and their daughter showed that governments could successfully negotiate with their counterparts in the leased from Lebanon because it makes you think it really can happen," she said.

It underlines the fact that their governments are doing what they can to get hostages out and ours is not.

McCarthy, 33, a journalist for Worldwide Television News, was kidnapped on April 17, 1986, on his way to Beirnt airport to catch a plane home to London. No one has claimed responsibility for

His friends, his father, Patrick, and Foreign Office Minister William Waldegrave attended a remembrance service at St. Bride's Church, the journalists' church

The Friends of John McCarthy group also planned a silent vigil ontside the Iranian embassy, and Paul Kauffmann would attend. Iran is believed to have influence over those holding the hostages.

Seventeen other Westerners are also held hostage in Lebanon, including Irisb teacher Brian Keenan, who also holds British citizenship, and who was kidnapped six days before McCarthy.

Terry Waite, the Archbishop of Caoterbury's envoy, disappeared in Beirut on Jan. 20, 1987, while on a mission to free hostages. Retired British pilot Jack Mann has been missing in west Beirut since last May 12.

The longest held hostage is Terry Anderson, chief Middle East correspondence for the Associated Press, who bas abducted March 16, 1985. In Beirut, Sheikh Mohammad Mehdi Shamseddin spiritual head

Western hostages kidnapped in Beirut were alive and well. He did not expand on the statement. Shi'ite extremists loyal to Iran water are believed to hold most of the 18 Western hostages in Lebanon. The majority have been held for more than 3 years. Two French hostage freed by the shadowy group Islamic Jihad

.two years ago said their captors claimed they were also holding Egypt, Libya and Sudan. McCarthy.

The fate of the bostages is believed linked to a power struggle in the Iranian government. Recent Tehran newspaper editorials calling for their release are seen as reflecting the position of President Hashemi Rafsanjani, who seeks Western technology and financing.

of Lebanon's Shi'ite Muslim com-

munity, said recently that all

Maghreb states propose funds to help halt exodus to Europe TUNIS (R) - A special fund to osed last month by Tunisian finance job creation in North Africa and arrest emigration to Foreign Minister Ismail Khelil at an informal meeting between

Europe is on the agenda of talks in Tunis by European Community Commissioner Abel Matutes, Tunisian sources said Tuesday. In charge of the EC's

Mediterranean policies, Matutes is visiting Tunisia which is current chairman of the Arab Maghreb Union, an economic association mirroring the EC and linking Algeria, Libya, Mauritania, Morocco and Tunisia.

The special fund idea was prop-

European and Maghreb officials

Khelil proposed the fund be financed in part by debts owed by North African countries to the EC, in order to promote job creation projects and help to balt emigration to Europe.

EC sources say there were 1,804,000 emigrant workers from Algeria, Morocco and Tunisia in the EC states in 1988. It is estimated there are also upwards of

600,000 illegal emigrants. Official figures in the three Maghreb states show there are over two million unemployed, but trade union federations estimate the figure is double that

While North African officials have expressed concern with racist incidents in some European countries, Tunisian officials consider the special fund would help to balt particularly illegal emigration which is said to cause ill-

Firm at centre of Iraqi gun row linked to murdered gunmaker

run by murdered arms maker Gerlad Bull was involved in Iraq's order for steel tubes which British customs officials say could be used to build a supergun, the firm that made them has said.

Sheffield Forgesmasters said Bull's Brussels-based Space Research Corporation acted for the Iraqi Ministry of Trade in sewing op the contract. The Canadian artillery expert was shot dead in the Belgian capital last month, apparently by a professional hit-

Bull was well-known in arms circles and had worked for the U.S. and Canadian governments. In 1980 he was jailed for violating a U.S. embargo on arms sales to South Africa by selling it an advanced bowitzer.

British experts are investigating whether eight massive tubes, seized by customs last week on the point of being shipped to Iraq, could have been used to build a giant cannon enabling Baghdad to loh nuclear or chemical missiels into Israel or Iran. Iraq bas strenously denied the allegations and said the cylinders

roleum industry. "It has always been accepted by Forgemasters that Space Re-search Corporation (SRC) had involvement in this contract.' Stuart Bensoo, solicitor for Forgemasters, said in a state-

were precision piping for its pet-

He said that the Brussels company had been represented by a man called Cowley and not Bull

in negotiating the contract. Benson repeated that Forgemasters had believed throughout the tubes were intended for Iraq's petrochemical industry.

"Proper inquiries were made regarding the bone fides of SRC; its involvement in the contract, a copy of which was seot to the Department of Trade and Industry, appears quite clearly from documents forming part of the

contract," he added. Though SRC is known for its arms expertise, it has also acted as ageot for suppliers to a number of Middle East petrochemical installations.

Forgemasters deny the tubes could be assembled into a giant gun barrel.

"Nobody seems to bave taken on board the fact that those eight pieces do not join up to form one piece," spokesman Tony Peck said Snuday.

The eight sections were the last shipment of a 52-piece order. The others have already been deli-

Kuwait prince promises return of parliament

KUWAIT (R) - Kuwait's crown prince has pledged after talks with former legislators that parliament will be restored following criticism by pro-democracy de-

The Kuwaiti News Agency said Monday the prince, Sheikh Saad Al Abdullah Al Sabah, would report Tuesday on the talks to the Emir, Sheikh Jaher Al Ahmad Al Sabah.

KUNA quoted Sheikh Saad as repeating a pledge by the government to restore parliament, which the emir dissolved in 1986 at the beight of the Iran-Iraq war citing a foreign conspiracy to destroy the country.

Al Watan oewspaper said Toesday that Sheikh Saad told 70 former deputies that guarantees and restrictions were needed to cosore proper parliamentary practice.

The next phase of talks would focus on obstacles relating to any future dissolution of the assem-

bly, the paper said. Leaders of Kuwait's pro-democracy movement staged a street protest Friday against what they said was government inaction to bring back parliament.

Last Tuesday Al Anba newspaper quoted Sheikh Saad as saying the talks on setting up parliament could last two years.

vered to Baghdad.

BEIRUT (Agencies) — Clashes raged in west Beirut, the capital's Christian sector and South Lebanon Tuesday as separate power struggles in the Shi'ite Muslim and Christian communities erupted in street battles.

In South Lebanon, the Israebbacked South Lebanon Army (SLA) clashed with the Nasserite militia controlling the port city of Sidon. Police said one Nasserite was killed and two others wound-

They said both sides traded hit and run assaults for three hours behind massive artillery barrages around the SLA's most forward positions at Kfar Falons in the hills east of Sidon. Each side blamed the other for the flare up.

In Sidon, police said an unidentified gunman went berserk. storming into a husiness office with a blazing submachine gun in the afternoon.

They said the man killed three employees and wounded two others before killing himself. The

Tel: 773111-19

Duels flare in east and west Beirut, S. motives behind the attack were

> mished with mortars and machine guns in east Beirut.

halt.

Jan. 30.

The clashes later spread to South Lebanon's Iglim Tuffah, where four people were wound-

not immediately known. In the Christian sector, troops

By police count, 875 people have been killed and 2,376 wounded in the fight that started Police said at least seven peo-

hostages.

ed, according to police.

loyal to renegade General Michel Aoun and Lebanese Forces militia chieftain Samir Geagea skir-No casualties were reported in

the clashes that leaders of the Maronite church, which both men belong to, bave failed to

ple were killed and 38 wounded in savage Shi'ite fighting in west Beirut and the city's southern slums, just one block from the barracks believed to be the most frequent prison for 18 Western

ted the fundamentalist pro-Iranian Hizbollah, against the Syriau-backed, more secular

Amai. Sporadic fighting started a year ago for strategic villages in Iqlim Tuffab, stretching from the northern edge of Israel's selfproclaimed security zone to Palestinian bases on Sidon's out-

In west Beirut, fires blazed ont of control and smoke billowed from scores of gutted cars in the densely populated district of Bourj Abu Haidar as bearded Sbi'ite fighters fired rocketpropelled grenades into each

others' territories. Witnesses in west Beirut said bundreds of residents were caught in the crossfire of the fighting.

'We saw gunmen running from corner to corner and shooting at each other. The streets were full of people and buses taking children to schools," said Mohammad Abdul Hafiz, quoted by Reuters.

Lebanon

Smoke billowed over the city as radio stations pleaded with fire fighters to put out blazes raging in shops, apartments and cars. Hospitals asked for blood donations. The security sources said a stray mortar bomb hit a school in the Christian area of Ain Al Roummanch, near the green line, wounding a priest and a woman Schools in the east have been

closed since the inter-Christian fighting erupted Jan. 31. Prime Minister Salim Al Hoss urged the rival Shi'ites to stop fighting and withdraw from the

Security sources said the foes had agreed to ceasefire at noon but explosions continued to rock

Fighting between Amal and Hizbollah, vying for the leadeship of Lebanon's 1.5 million Shi'ites, was sparked on Monday when gunmen killed an Amal official in west Beinrt.

Egypt to tap Nubian desert

LONDON - Following Libya's example, Egypt is moving to exploit the massive groundwater reserves trapped beneath the Nobian desert, which straddles

Libya is already tapping the reserves on its side of the border for its Great Man-Made River (GMR) project, whose first phase is nearing completion.

In the 1980s, however, Cairo complained that the GMR would deprive Egypt of water since the reserves, although thousands of years old, are seeping extremely slowly in a north easterly direction, moving across Libya into

With a rapprochement be-tween Tripoli and Cairo in full swing, however, such claims have been forgotten. Egyptian Public Works and Water Resources Minister Issam Radi has just revealed that studies are now under way on the feasibility of a project to exploit Egypt's Nubian proundwater.

Algeria says democracy is in jeopardy, vows to get tough

ALGIERS (R) - The Algerian came hours after the FIS government Sunday night vowed to use the full power of the law to preserve public order and a nascent democracy threatened by mounting labour and Muslim fun-damentalist unrest.

An angry government statement said recent statements by the official labour union UGTA and the powerful opposition Islamic Salvation Front (FIS) were "daogerous deviations that threaten social stability and the emerging democracy."

The statement, reported by the Algerian News Agency (APS), announced a mass march on the presidential palace Friday to press political demands, likely to include the dissolution of perlia-The FIS is the main opposition

challenger to the ruling National Liberation Front (FLN) in June town and provincial elections, the first multi-party poll in Algeria's post-independence history. The FLN has called for nation-

wide counter-demonstrations Friday to denounce fundamentalists for using mosques for political

mined to use all means recognised by the law... to maintain public order," the government statement said.

It attacked what it called a alliance of black-market specultors and political adventurists for allegedly speaking the "language of provocation and invective" for

electoral reasons. The labour union timesters last week to call a general strike to protest the government's reform programme, aimed at liber. alising the economy and ending the UGTA monopoly. :

U.N. protests at Israeli assaults on clinics

LONDON — The United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestice Refugees (UN-RWA) has formally protested to the Israeli government over repeated violations of its health centres in the Gaza Strip by Israel's occupation authorities.

In the Feb. 6 - March 1 period alone soldiers and officials entered UNRWA clinics five times, on one occasion ransacking files and interrogating and searching staff, said the Vienna-based

In its last annual report, UN-RWA said that its activities were increasingly being hampered by the arrest and detention of its staff. In the year from July 1,

1988 to Juoe 30, 1989, 157 UNRWA personnel were detained, of whom 83 were seized in the Gaza Strip and 49 in the West

Many of those staff members complained of beatings and other forms of brutality during their detention," said the report, not-ing that "in addition, agency staff, including international staff, were subjected to physical abuse and, at times, undisciplined behaviour by Israeli soldiers."

UNRWA bas meanwhile announced plans for the construc-

In his appeal to potential donors, the agency's Commissioner-General, Giorgio Giacomelli, said that UNRWA's initiative bad been "dictated by the serious lack of hospital beds. the deterioration of the services provided by the very limited number of hospitals and the emergency situation created by the initifada."

The Gaza Strip, with a popula-tion of 650,000 — including over 480,000 refugees - has only two tion of a new, 200-bed general hospital near Gaza city, and has launched a special fund-raising campaign for the \$35 million pro-

MIDDLE EAST NEWS BRIEFS

Israeli militants threaten rabbi

TEL AVIV (R) - Jewish zealots left a built on the doorstep of an Israeli rabbi who backs the Labour Party's plans for Arab-Israeli peace talks. Israeb police said the bullet and a note signed by the shadowy Sicarii group were found in an envelope at the Bnei Brak home of Rabbi Moshe Yehoshua Hagger Tuesday. Hagger is head of the Council of Torah Sages which directs the nitra-religious Agudat Israel Party. A Tel Aviv police spokeswoman said the note warned Hagger against forcing any Agudat Israel parliamentarian to vote for a government headed by pro-peace Labour leader Shimon Peres. Agudat Israel signed an agreement with Peres but two of its five legislators quit in protest last week, saying they could not support a coalition dependent on Arab parliamentarians. One of the Agudat Israel members withdrew his resignation after Peres was given more time to form a government. The Sicarii, named after Jewish zealots who killed collaborators with the Romans in Biblical times, have claimed responsibility for arson and bomb attacks on left-wing intellec-

Ethiopian rebels captured Israeli radios

NAIROBI (R) - Rebels in northern Ethiopia said on Tuesday they killed 872 government troops and captured Israeli-made radios as they infiltrated a new area of Shoa province last week. A spokesman for the rebel Tigre People's Liberation Front (TPLF said rebel forces attacked Karakore on the main road north from Addis Ababa to Dessie, capital of Wollo province, last Thursday. Spokesman Tewolde Gabru told Reuters by telephone from London the TPLF and its allies attacked two brigades of army commandos in Karakore, killing 721 soldiers and capturing 351. On Friday rebel forces attacked the nearby town of Degaga, killing 151 government troops and capturing 200. The rebels also captured many weapons and, for the first time, Israeli-made Moterela long-distance radios, he said. The reported scizure appeared to confirm reports that Israel has been supplying military equipment to Ethiopia since the two countries re-established diplomatic relations in November.

Arens delays ties with Bulgaria

TEL AVIV (R) — Israeli Foreign Minister Moshe Areas has postponed plans to visit Bulgaria to sign an agreement restoring diplomatic relations, the Foreign Ministry has said. Foreign Ministry spokesman Yosi Amihud told Reuters that Arens would reschedule the trip within a month, after he had dealt with problems over the formation of Israel's next government. Israel's national unity government, in which Arens' right-wing Likud Bloc shared power with the Labour Party, fell last month over Liknd's refusal to accept U.S. proposals for Israeli-Palestinian peace talks in Cairo. Labour leader Shimon Peres was asked to form a new government and both Labour and Likud are now angling for the support of smaller parties in the Knesset (parliament). Amihud said Arens' visit to Bulgaria, arranged two weeks ago, had been expected to start Wedneday.

Malaria cases up sharply in Khartoum

KHARTOUM (AP) - The lack of mosquito spray in Sudan has caused a sharp upsurge in the number of malaria cases, especially in camps near Khartoum housing people displaced by the long southern civil war. Dr. Sadek Mahjoub, the Ministry of Health's director for endemic diseases, said 7,372 people were diagnosed with the insect-borne disease last week. That was almost 2½ times the 3,000 who contracted malaria in the second week in April 1989. A similar ratio was evident in records for February, the last month in which figures have been compiled. Mahjoub said 33,000malaria cases were reported, with 25 deaths, compared with 13,741 cases in February 1989, Mahjoub blamed the near epidemic conditions on "absence of spray in the areas of mosquito multiplication" as well as optimum breeding conditions for the disease-carrying insects. The worst-hit areas are in the displaced persons camps on the capital's outskirts, where health conditions are appalling, Mahjoub said.

3 killed in Turkey minibus blast

DERIK, Turkey (AP) - A bomb has exploded in a minibus in this southeastern township, killing three people and wounding 11, the semi-official Anatolia News Agency reported. The agency said four of the wounded were in critical condition. The bomb was concealed in a package that had been handed to the driver by a teenage boy, the agency said. The boy had asked the driver to take the package to one of the villages on the bus route in Mardin province. Anatolia quoted officials as saying they were searching for the boy. Derik is in the region where guerrillas of the Kurdish Labour Party (PKK) have been fighting for an independent Marxist state since 1984. So far, about 2,500 people have been killed in clashes between the guerrillas and the government troops and in hit-and-run attacks on settlements by the rebels.

Soviet jets in S. Arabia for Koran airlift.

JEDDAH, Saudi Arabia (AP) - The first of 30 flights by this Soviet airline Aeroflot arrived to pick up a million copies of the Koran that King Fahd has given to Muslims in the Soviet Union. The operation is being organised by the Mecca-based Muslim World League. This kingdom, which harbours Islam's holical shrines, has no formal diplomatic relations with the Soviet Union But the Aeroflot landings in Jeddah are part of growing links outside diplomacy. The atmosphere of freedom in the Soviet Union resulting from the policies of President Mikhail Gorbaches allowed the royal gift, said the league's secretary-general, Abdullah Omar Nascef. The copies of the Muslim holy book to be sent to the Soviet Muslims were printed in Arabic at the King. Fahd Printing Complex in Medina. An additional 600,000 translations of Hadith, or centuries of interpretations of the Koran, in the language of the Turkistan region are being prepared for export. A three-member delegation from the league recently. visited the Soviet Union to make arrangements for the distribu-

Demonstrations reported in Tehran

BAGHDAD (R) — Iran's main opposition group said Tuesday its supporters held mass demonstrations over the past three days against the clerical government in Tehran. The Baghdad-bases against the cicrical government in Tentau. The Dagatest Mujahedeen Khalq said in a telex that thousands of demonstrators assembled in Mellat Park in north Tehran "in protest demonstrations against the leaders of the mullahs' regime in Tehran." It quoted reports from the Iranian capital as saying armed guards opened fire to disperse the demonstrators and severely beat up some of them, breaking some arms and legs. The guards arrested a large number of demonstrators on Saturday and Sunday, the statement added. It also said the government press in Tehran "finally broke its silence and reported the arrest of 65 of the demonstrators on Sunday, describing the detainees as

JORDAN TELEVISION

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15:39 Koran	Assemblies of God
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ta:05 Cairo news message	De la Salle Church
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****	Rescue Police 192, 621111, 6377
	Fire Brigade 8912
	Blood Bank 7751
USEFUL TELEPHONE	Highway Police 8434
	Traffic Police 8963
NUMBERS	Public Security Department 6303
	Hotel Complaints 6058
NIGHT DUTY	Price Complaints
	Water and Sewerage
AMMAN:	Water and Sewerage Complaints 8974
Dr. Walid Al Smadi 683266	Amman Municipality
Dr. Ranzi Mizzawi 894788	Amman Municipality Complaints
Dr. Wael Dumati	Telephone Information
Dr. Hanna Mansour 748364	(directory assistance) 1
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Perdows pharmacy 778336	Central Amman Telephone
Al Asema pharmacy 637055	Repairs
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Al Salam pharmacy 636730	Jordan Television
Yacoub pharmacy 644945	Radio Jordan 7741
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Hotel Complaints
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Water and Sewerage
Complaints 897467
Amman Municipality
Complaints 7871tt
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(directory assistance) 121
Overseas Calls 010230
Central Araman Telephone
Repairs
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Jordan Television773111
Radio Jordan
Water Authority680100
Jordan Electricity Authority 815615
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HOSPITALS

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University Hospital	845845
Al-Mussher Hospital	667227/9
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Queen Aliz Hospital	002/4030
Anal Hospital	674155
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ZARQA:	4554
Zarqa Govt. Hospital	(09)983323
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JORDAN TIMES DAILY GUIDE AND CALENDAR

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664164/6	99:55 Doha, Bebrain
777101/3	10:00 Dhahran, Kuwak
775111/26	11:60 Aqaba
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(09)983323	17:49 Vicana, Belgrade
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(09)986732	18:00 Madrid, Rome
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FOR THE TRAVELLER QUEEN ALIA

INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT

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Other Flights (Terminal 2)

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DEPARTURES

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Royal Jordanian (RJ) Flights 11:30 Paris, London (RJ)

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Norking paper defines from and principles of confederation

By Samir Hiyari and Isam Oadamani Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN - A senior Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) official said in Amman Tuesday that a working paper submitted by the PLO to the Jordanian government on future relations explicitly defines the form of confederation between Palestine and Jordan.

"The working paper deals with such questions as passports and citizenship of Palesti-) (i) ports and in Jordan and other aspects of political, economic and social relations between the two sides," according to Mohammad Milhem, member of the PLO's executive committe

Milhem said that the working paper will be discussed by His Majesty King Hussein and Palestine President Yasser . Arafat during the latter's current visit to Jordan.

"Arafat's visit is considered the most significant so far and his talks with King Hussein are of paramount importance in view of the issues on the agenda and in the light of the present conditions in the Arab World," Milhem said in a statement to Al Ra'i and Jordan Times dailies.

Milhem, who is also director of the PLO's Department of Higher Education, said that the meeting between the two leaders is important, coming in the weake of the downfall of the Israeli coalition government and in the light of the ongoing Soviet Jewish immigration into Palestine as well as political developments in the Arab World, especially Israel's open threats to Arab

The working paper in ques-tion discusses the form of government in a confederate state, joint institutions and other re-

lated topics," Milhem added. The two leaders' meeting will lay the foundation stone and the main principles for future relations between Palestine and Jordan, Milhem said.

In reply to a question, Milhem warned the Arabs against failure to build up a joint Arab front against Israel. There is no alternative to a solid front grouping Jordan, Syria, Iraq, Palestine and Egypt to confront Israel's conspiracies and to pre-empt an

Israeli military strike on Iraq and other frontline states," Milhem pointed out.

"There is dire need for bolstering the defences of the frontline states confronting Israel including Iraq which is now considered as a frontline state," Milhem added.

Referring to Palestinian-Syrian relations, Milhem said they were on their way for improvement in the wake of a visit to Damascus by Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Marwan Al Qasem, and following a visit to Syria by the wife of the late PLO leader Khalil Al Wazir.

Milhem defended the PLO's call for a peaceful solution and said the PLO made the bid from a position of strength based on the intifada inside the occupied Palestinian lands. He said that no peace can be

achieved without negotiations. The question of a confederate state was raised Saturday by the PLO officials Mahmoud Abbas and Abdullah Hourani at a meeting with Prime Minister Mudar Badran. Abbas and Hoorani arrived here last week to prepare the way for Arafat's visit to Jordan.

First toxic waste dumping site chosen

MMAN (J.T.) — The Ministry in Municipal and Rural Affairs and the Environment has decided n a 1000-dunum plot of land to crve as a site for dumping toxic waste, and a recommendation has een made in connection with his to the Council of Ministers & approval, according to a rebles: port in Al Ra'i Arabic daily.

The site, located south of Swapa, in the southern regions of Amman is considered accessible from all parts of the country,

according to the report. Abdul Karim Al Dughmi said the ministry, in cooperation with the Department of Lands and Survey would demarcate the site and seal it off to ensure public safety before practical steps canbe taken to dump the toxic mate-

The ministry, last February, said it was defining several areas around the Kingdom for dumping

dangerous waste. "Specialists have drawn up plans for the pits in which the waste will be dumped and all the sites will be cordoned off to prevent any agricultural, human or animal contact with

them," the ministry announced. The report was the first indication of one of these sites chosen for dumping the waste which is turned out from oumerous factories in Amman and Zarga.

According to the ministry's announcement, technical teams have studied the geological, hydrological and other aspects of the dumping ground to prevent any leakage of chemical or poisonous materials to underground water resources. It said that the dumping areas are located far away from bedouin settlements and wadis or agricultural lands.

The report said that several Parliament members have been

involved in the selection of the dumping area along with representatives of the Water Aothority, the Ministry of Health and the Badia poice force.

Jordan was one of 110 countries that signed an international agreement on controlling the process of dumping dangerous waste at a meeting held in Switzerland March 20, 1989.

Last November, a five-day regional consultation meeting on control and disposal of hazardous waste was held in Amman with the participation of delegates from 11 countries. The seminar reviewed problems related to the increase in the amount of waste material stored, transported or disposed off in the Arab countries and issued a set of recommendations about precautionary measures to minimise dangers of toxic.

Innovation saves 30 per cent to farmers

AMMAN (J.T.) — A Royal Scientific Society (RSS) researcher has succeeded in developing a multilayer transparent film for agricultural purposes which contains up to 60 per cent recycled polyethylene materials.

Dr Amin Rubaidi, head of the **RSS Material Science Division at** the Mechanical Design and Technology Centre, says that in the past two decades, the use of plastic films for greenhouse applications has increased steadily in Jordan.

Imports in the form of films and pellets necessary for local production have constituted a strain on foreign currency re-serves. In addition, their present disposal practice are adversely affecting the environment.

The general objectives of the project was to improve the quality and durability of plastic films manufactured in Jordan and to develop and produce multilayer plastic films incorporating used,

recycled ones. The project was designed to upgrade the technical and manufacturing capabilities of local plastic industries. The project's novel concept proposes the incorporation of discarded, used plastie films in the manufacturing of new multilayer films for greenhouse applications.

It has the potential of not only saving badly needed foreign currency by reducing imports but will also benefit the Jordanian farming community by ultimately decreasing the cost and increasing the service life of plastic films. In addition, it has also the potential of contributing to the climination of the environmental pollution caused by the current practices of used films disposal.

The production of plastic film based on blends of plastic waste with virgin resin is a common practice in the industry. However, most of the recycled plastic waste is either industrial scrap from the same manufacturing facilities or one which underwent limited exterior exposure. The RSS research dealt with blends incorporating used plastic films extensively exposed to weathering effects.

Dr. Rubaidi says that the developed film will be more than 30 per cent cheaper than that virgin

The project was a collaboration project between the Plastic and Rubber Laboratory at the Royal Scientific Society, Jordan and the Department of Chemical Enginnering at McGill University. Canada, and was funded by the International Development Research Center (IDRC) in Cana-

An extension of the project was recently fooded and approved by IDRC. The extension was to be carried out jointly with the National Research Centre in Egypt to utilise the laboratory-scale findings and results in an industrial scale produc-

Arafat's schedule

(Continued from page 1)

"I don't have anything to say," said the red-faced prime minister, who got into a car and sped off to meet Arafat at Jordan's guest palace in Amman.

Police and intelligence agency cars with flashing lights blocked one of Amman's main streets as the prime minister arrived, with a motorcade of other officials in tow, to great Arafat.

But Arafat was still at Queen Alia Airport, waiting for an official to receive him. The interior minister, Salem Massadeh, finally showed up.

Erratic schedules are literally a

important friends. Andersson was the key intermediary in the 1988. U.S. deci-

Arafat later told reporters in Amman that there was no plan to meet Andersson in Cairo because he had already had the talks with



Muslims, Christians rally to condemn Israeli aggression

AMMAN (Petra) — The Islamic-Christian committee which convened Tuesday at the headquarters of the Jerusalem geoeral Islamie conference condemned the Israeli practices and the occupation of the boly shrines of the Greek Orthodox church in Arab Jerusalem.

The committee announced at the meeting its denunciation of the violence against Pat-riarch 'Diodoros I and other Christian clergymeo who were defending their religious rights and were coofronting the aggressoo which forms a clear violatioo of the religious and moral values.

The violence against Christian clergymen followed a protest by the Greek Orthodox church against a new Jewish settlemeot in the Christian quarter of Jerusalem's old city. Israeli police used force against the clerics protesting the move of about 150 Jewish settlers into the St. John's Hospice owned by the Greek Orthodox

"This aggression forms a new phase in the series of

Firms offer

AMMAN (J.T.) — Fourteen loc-al firms have submitted applica-

tions to the Ministry of Tourism

to set up a tourist camp along the

Yamanieh beach of Agaba to

absorb more tourists to the port city, Minister of Tourism Abdul

Karim Al Kabariti said in an

interview with a local newspaper

"The projected plans, according to the bids, would include

chalets, small hotels and res-

taurants among other basic ser-

vices to the visitors," Kabariti

said in a statement published in

The tourist camp, he said, is

badly needed to cope with the

increased number of tourists who

converge on Agaba specially in

In Aqaba during autumn and

winter the hotels are usually fully

booked. "From now and until the

end of August, and reservations

for 16,000 Italian tourists have

been cancelled largely due to lack

"Jordan has oot been able to

put into force tourist agreements

concluded with Egypt because of

lack of facilities to absorb

thousands of tourists who would

otherwise be crowding into the

port city after visiting tourist sites in Sinai and Egypt," the minister

"The Ministry of Tourism has

now submitted to the council of

ministers an amendment to the tourism law, which would allow

more investments in hotels and

The Ministry of Tourism has

also received applications from 11

firms to set up three large hotels

in Petra providing a total of 450

rooms; and one of Jordan's major

companies is currently building a

144-room hotel in the port city to

make way for badly needed facili-

ties," the minister added.

tourist facilities in Aqaba,'

added.

Kabariti said.

of room," the minister said.

Al Dustour daily.

Tuesday.

to set up

Zionist attacks on boly Islamie and Christian shrines, and it reminds of the attacks oo Al Aqsa Mosque and other religious places in order to eod the Muslim and Christian existence and to undermine the status of Jerusalem, the committee said. The committee said that the religious freedom cannot be secured under Israeli

"What makes the aggressioo seem worse is that it was carried ont with help from Israeli officials, municipal anthorities and the police, which shows the Zionist covert plan against religious io geoeral, aod against the national religious sects in particular, said the committee.

The committee criticised the U.S. stand on the issue and said it was a main reason behind encouraging Zionism in achieving its plans.

"The position of the U.S. Congress and the international campaign led by the U.S. to clear Zionism from its racist character is a main reasoo bebiod eoconragiog Zionist plans," the committee said. It added that the leaders of the U.S. administration and the Coogress should revise their biased policy, to make it in accordance with the status of the U.S. as a superpower that bas special responsibility in maintaining justice and human rights in the world.

The committee voiced its deep sorrow over the Soviet Union's responding to American pressures to encourage the immigratioo of Soviet Jews to settle on the land of Palestine.

It called on the leaders of the Soviet Unioo to realise the real dimensions of the crimes committed against peaceful people, who had friendly relations with them and asked them to stop this just, aggressive invasioo before the Arab-Soviet relations were affected.

The committee said the campaign against Iraq comes in concord with the Zionist aggressive plan which is trying to distort the image of the Arabs, and it praised Iraq's steadfastness in the face of the campaign.

Oil and gas prospecting continues in the Kingdom tourist camp

By Samir Hivari Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN - Minister of Energy and Mineral Resources Thabet Al Taher revealed in a statement to the Jordan Times and Al Ra't that the Kingdom produces up to 400 barrels of crude oil and around 10 millioo cubic feet of natural gas on a daily basis, but the quest will continue to find

ampler supplier. Taher said that oil prospecting takes place through the Natural Resources Authority (NRA) which is currently implementing a national oil exploration programme and through the belp of oil firms operating in the country.

One of the foreign firms is the Petra-Canada International Assistance Corporation which last February signed an agreement with the government to expand its current oil and gas exploration in the Kingdom.

In the process, the Canadian firm will be supplying at least \$12.5 million bringing to \$31.2 million the company's contribution to NRA.

"NRA has worked ont a national programme to find oil and natural gas but cooperation with Iraq and Egypt will continue in oil exploration operations," the minister said.

In January Taher said that the NRA started drilling gas well number 18 at Al Risheh district near the border with Iraq where all indications point to the presence of a vast deposit of natural gas that could be used for power

generation purposes.
Several foreign companies are now prospecting for oil in Azraq, the Dead Sea, Wadi Araba the northern Jordan Valley and Al Jafer regions under NRA super-

vision, according to Taher.

Taher referred to future cooperation between countries of the Arab Cooperatioo Cooocil (ACC) which groups Iraq, Jor-dan, Egypt and North Yemen and the countries of the Gulf Cooperation Cooocil (GCC) whose members are all oil producers, and said "the two blocs complement each other and there is plenty of room for cooperation between them out only in oil and gas productioo but also in explor-ing other mineral resources.

Sweden, Jordan to hold seminar on marketing

AMMAN (J.T.) — As a consequence to the Swedish State visit to Jordan during September 1989 and as an effort to promote Jordanian exports to Sweden, a seminar oo marketing will be organised in Amman during May 7 - 8, 1990 by the Amman Chamber of Industry and the Federation of Swedish Commerce and Trade (FOSCAT) under the umbrella of the Embassy of Sweden in Amman.

After having had similar seminars carried out in almost twenty different developing countries, Jordan as a newly industrialised country will be the first Arab country to cooperate with Sweden and bave this seminar organised in Jordan.

Sponsored by the Swedish Import Promotion Office for Products from Developing Countries (IMPOD), Sweden will be present at the seminar with four experts who will conduct active and flexible representations and discussions with the Jordanian industrialists and other interested and relevant parties on Sweden as a potential market for Jordanian products.

It is an opportunity where Swedish economy and foreign trade will be analysed by the Head of Import Council of FOS-CAT Boerje Risingaard. Ela-boration on Sweden as a buyer of consumer goods will be presented by Percy Willinerr, representative of the Swedish Cooperation and Wholesale Society, and by Ralf Schalin from IMPOD.

In addition, a presentation of the role of the commercial bank in Swedish foreign trade will be given by Ernst Eriksson from the Swedish Bank of Commerce. A considerable interest has

already been shown by a group of Jordanian exporters who explored the Swedish market during March. 1990 and returned with favourable impressions concerning possibilities of business cooperation between the two coun-

The Swedish experts will visit Sunday May 6, the Amman Industrial Estate to meet prospective exporters and also the Royal Scientific Society to acquaint themselves with capabilities in regard to standardisation.

Ministry of Education prepares to join Earth Day celebrations

AMMAN (J.T.) — The Ministry of Education has made ample preparations for participating io Earth Day activities which begin in Jordan Saturday under the patronage of Her Majesty Queen Noor Al Hussein, according to Hassan Alauddin director of student affairs at the Ministry of Education.

"Jordan will be joining more than a 100 countries around the world in Earth Day activities designed to emphasise the protection of nature and the environment; and students from government schools have been instructed to take part io these activities," Alaoddin was quoted as saying Saturday.

"The programme includes a clean-up campaign to which the students will be involved in clearing away rubbish along the desert highway and the Queeo Alia International Airport highway," he

"Other groups of studeots will be involved in cleaning the Mafraq-Azraq road and others will work oo the Zarqa-Muwaqqar highway in a similar mission, Alauddin said in a state-

He said that all departments of education in Jordan have been instructed to arrange for students'

participation io the campaign and to arrange for special lectures at schools to draw students' attentioo to the need for maintaining a

clean and tidy country. The Department of Education at North Shuneh in the Jordan Valley announced Tuesday that hundreds of students will be involved in the two-day clean-up campaign in the Jordan Valley. 'The cleaning will take place at public gardens, main streets and other public areas," the departmeot announced.

The campaign, on a nationwide scale, will be spearheaded by the Royal Society for the Conservation of Nature, and a special Earth Day committee chaired by Her Majesty Queen Noor.

The campaign will involve the participation of representatives of various ministries, government departments and public and private institutions.

Among other parties involved are the Royal Scientific Society and the Agaba Port Authority.

Apart from collecting and removing garbage and old tyres, teams will hang posters and distribute leaflets spreading awareness among the public on the need for protecting the environment and preventing pollution.

NATIONAL NEWS IN BRIEF

Royal Decree endorses allowances system

AMMAN (Petra) - A Royal Decree was issued Tuesday endorsing the allowances system of the Social Security Corporatioo employees issued according to article 76 of the social security law. The law defines all allowances for employees in different classes.

Jordanian delegation to take part in APU

AMMAN (Petra) - A Jordanian parliameotary delegation beaded by Lower House of Parliament Speaker Suleiman Arar will leave for Baghdad Wednesday to take part in the Arab Parliamentary Union (APU) extraordinary conference which was called for by the Iraqi parliamentary section to discuss the European Parliamentary Unioo's stand towards Iraq and the Arab Nation. The Jordanian delegation will inclode Seoator Saced Al Tal, Deputy Nayef Abu Tayeh, Deputy Abdullah Zureigat and the director of the parliament speaker's office, Khaled Al Sambouri.

Engineers to have status readjusted

AMMAN (Petra) - Jordanian eogineers employed by public institutions will have their status readjusted in accordance with the Civil Service Commission classification system, according to a decision taken by the Council of Ministers Tuesday. A statement following a Cabinet meeting Tuesday said that the rule applies to all engineers employed on contract before March 1985. The Cabinet also announced its approval of regulations set by the Civil Service Commission on selecting employees to fill government positions and approved a system that would grant employees with higher university degrees special allowances provided they had been appointed in their posts before January 1, 1988.

Lecture on drugs delivered in Irbld

IRBID (Petra) — The Orphans Fund Director General Abdul Salam Al Abbadi Tuesday delivered a lecture oo the role of Islam in combatting drugs. Abbadi said that the solution to drug problems lies in returning to the divine message of Islam. He affirmed the importance of establishing full coordination between all society's institutions to prevent delinquency.

Seminar held in Ramtha

RAMTHA (Petra) — The effects of Irbid waste water treatment plant on neighbouring areas and the effects of moving the building housing border authorities and customs to another site were the main topics under discussioo in a seminar held Tuesday at Ramtha Chamber of Commerce. Deputies Salim Al Zu'bi and Mohammad Al Dardour took part in the seminar which also tackled the problem of unemployment.

Minister Inspects work at road projects

MAFRAQ (Petra) - Minister of Public Works and Housing Abdul Raouf Al Rawabdeh Tuesday inspected work at road projects in the eastern areas of Al Mafraq governorate. The minister studied the prospect of connecting by road Bariqa and Al Harash areas and asked the concerned authorities to take the necessary measures to prepare for the project.

American Centre celebrates Earth Day

AMMAN (J.T.) - In celebration of Earth Day, the American Cultural Centre in Amman will host a public lecture, Wednesday at 2:00 p.m., by Abdullah Ahmad, environmental officer at USAID, on "Global Resources and the Jordanian Environment." The lecture will be in Arabic. All interested persons are welcome

People's Army graduation held in Mafrag

MAFRAQ (Petra) - A new batch of female recruits of the People's Army in Al Mafraq governorate graduated Tuesday. The graduatioo ceremony included drills with light arms. At the end of the ceremony the People's Army Commander distributed awards

WHAT'S GOING ON

The following listings are compiled from monthly bulletins and the daily Arabic press. Readers are advised to verify the listed time and place with the concerned institutions.

EXHIBITION

* Exhibition of paintings by Faisal Al Zu'bi at Yarmonk University.

THEATRE

* Musical version of Ali Baba by the New English School at the Royal Cultural Centre - 8:30 p.m.

LECTURES

☆ Lecture entitled "Islamic Timing and Modern Technology" by
Dr. Ali Abanda at the Royal Cultural Centre — 8:30 p.m. ★ Lecture, in Arabic, on global resources and the Jordanian
environment by Abdullah Ahmad at the American Centre —



Johnnes Zaben Ministry seeks to provide health

services to all (ADABA (Petra) - The Minis-Ty of Health is concerned with noviding health services to health centres and clinics all over the Kingdom, Minister of Health Mohammad Addoub Al Zaben and Tuesday.

In a tour, which iocluded cath centres in Hasban, Jarina, dadaba, Ma'in, Al Arid, Mulaih, In Thiban in Madaba district, minister said his tour was a antinuation of inspection visits o different administrative units lat follow Amman governorate know the needs of citizens in

ach city and village. Zaben said that the ministry is normed with health education id is holding seminars and eduzional courses for workers at alth centres, particularly for drives.

The minister decided to form a trial committee headed by idaba district governor to study district's health needs. Taben also promised to study

possibility of opening X-ray

first aid clinics and laborator-

in the health centres in the

Tict in accordance with the ustry's capabilities. Andaba District Governor Neb Al Tarawneh delivered a ech in which he reviewed the icvements accomplished in district in the past.

often comes before relations with

way of life for Arafat, who depends upon unpredictability to avoid repeated assassination attempts by Israel or by rivals within the Palestinian movement. As in Monday's case, security

sion to end a 13-year boycott of talks with the PLO.

Earlier this month, Kabariti said the Ministry of Tourism was now turning its attention to encouraging domestic tourism as well and, in cooperation with local transport companies, will shortly start a programme of visits for Jordanians to see touristic and archaeological sites in Jordan.

"The programme will start in May and fees to be paid by visitors should cover transportation in airconditioned buses to and from the sites, meals and other services like visits to museums," the minister said.

Jordan Times

١٠٥٢ الجاهان المناسبة المستعبد الإنسانية المستعبد الارسية المستعبد المستعب

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The Jordan Times is published daily except Fridays. Subscription and advertising rates are available from the Jordan Times advertising department.

Euphrates accord is a building stone

THE JUST concluded Syrian-Iraqi agreement on the fair distribution of the waters of the Euphrates River is a good omen for the future relations between the two Arab countries. The accord is so important that it could very well be the harbinger of more far-reaching agreements between the sister states. The fact that Syria and Iraq were able to agree now on such a strategic subject after failing to do for so many years does indeed suggest that a new era in Iraqi-Syrian relations is about to begin. What better way to respond to the new dangers to the Arab Order than to have the Eastern Front come alive once again. Given the new ominious developments in the Middle East region, not to mention the new international order that ensued from the relaxation of the East-West relations, there is a growing need for developing an Arab defensive posture commensurate with the projected Israeli threats, Swelling Israeli population to new levels, introducing nuclear and thermonuclear weapons by Israel, and the refusal of Tel Aviv to engage the Pelestinian people with meaningful negotiations are landmark signals that more difficult times in the Middle East are in the offine.

And with the Syrians and Iraqis agreeing on the waters of the Euphrates River, the final tripartite agreement comprising Turkey, Syria and Iraq can now become within reach. The elusive Syrian-Iraqi agreement on the Euphrates River has been thus far a major burdle in the face of a comprehensive treaty on the international river. Ankara has often voiced concern at the lack of agreement between Syria and Iraq over the rights to the waters of the river that originates from the eastern part of Turkey. As a matter of fact, relations between Damascus and Baghdad had reached a boiling point in the past over differences on the just and equitable use of the waters of the Euphrates.

That is why this Syrian-Iraqi agreement is truly a milestone not only in terms of Syrian-Iraqi relations but rather in terms of Arab relations in general. What needs to be done now in the wake of this Syrian-Iraqi breakthrough is additional consolidation of the goodwill and sense of brotherhood generated by it. Amman and Cairo bave left no stone unturned to put Syrian-Iraqi relations on the right course and it now appears that their efforts may just be beginning to bear fruit.

Jordan Press Editorials

AL RA'I Arabic daily on Tuesday attributed the change in the American Congress's views about a recent decision considering Jerusalem as the united capital of Israel largely to Jordan's efforts. King Hussein who has earlier brought the question of Jerusalem to the attention of the world community, pointing out the danger inherent in Israel's annexation of Arah Jerusalem has succeeded in exposing Israel's plans and caused the leader of the U.S. Congress delegation to declare that the Senate's decision was a blunder, the paper noted. Senator Dole made the statements in Israel following his talks in Amman with King Hussein and after learning the Arab views concerning a just and durable Middle East settlement, the paper noted. The Jordanian moves world-wide prompted even some Israeli leaders to say that the U.S. Senate's decision was wrong and untimely, the paper added. It said that Jordan launched its diplomatic offensives once it was clear that the Soviet Jews immigrating into Palestine formed a real danger to the Arab Nation and once it became clear that the Zionist leaders were determined to create a greater Israel. This fact, the paper added, should make it clear to the Arabs that hostility they are facing now is partly due to their failures to hring to the attention of the world community the real facts about the situation in our area and to advocate Arab causes

With due respect to Senator Dole and his nice words about Jerusalem, his statements can never hring about a real change in the U.S. administration's stand and his recommendation of cutting hy five per cent U.S. aid to Israel could go unnoticed by the U.S. Congress, says columnist Tareq Masarweh Tuesday. The writer says Dole's words and statements can never bring about an improvement to a rotten system like that of the U.S. Congress and Senate which are more beckward than many Third World countries' systems. No decision by the Congress will change the facts about the situation in the occupied Palestinian land and transform Jerusalem as the united capital of Israel unless the Arabs have the will to struggle and shatter this decision and its effects, the writer notes. He says that decreasing or aholishing U.S. aid to the Jewish state can never restore the holy city or the rest of the occupied lands to their lawful owners if they merely continue to beg the world for help. We believe that Palestine is ours and that Dole can never bring it back without our own struggle without fear of war, the writer adds. He says that there is no reason for thanking Senator Dole for his statements because he is not doing us any favour but rendering a service to his own country.

Al Dustour daily commented on Baghdad's reiteration that it will strike at Israel should the latter launch an aggression on Iraqi territory. The paper said that the Iraqi leader has irrevocably declared his country's intention to retaliate in the event of an aggression and made this clear to the visiting U.S. Senate delegation so that its members can relay this warning to the Israeb government. The Iraqi forces have already received orders to react swiftly and immediately once the Israelis launched their attack on Iraq and there is no question about Iraq's determination to carry out its threat in the event of an Iraq's aggression, the paper added. The paper said that the Iraqi armed forces possess a great potential and military might and therefore are capable of placing Israel face to face with the moment of truth. For the Arabs, the paper concluded, this warning to the Jewish state is a source of pride for all Arab citizens.

Economic Forum

Floating interest rates revisited

IN ECONOMICS, we are not short of theories. What we need most is to know which theories are good for a particuiar country and for a particular situation. Surely, the best way to adjudge a theory is to apply

At a time when the whole world is drifting steadily to market economy the virtues of market forces hardly need emphasising or convincing. Sometimes there is more than one version of a given theory. The basic differentiation in this context is the one to be made between theories appropriate to advanced countries on the one hand and developing countries on the other.

Take interest rates. Interest is the price of capital and must therefore be left to be determined by market forces if the resulting rates are not to be distortive to economic activity. Fair enough. If we are speaking of distortion, the implicit assumption will be that we are starting from a perfect market situation which is typical of an advanced economy. But if the market is imperfect, a situation that typifies developing economies, the theory must be differently tailored. Failure to allow for this difference may be fatal.

economy signals strong supply where interest rates tend to skid down. In a reversed situation, liquidity declines and interest rates edge up. This is normative economics. With positive economics we take the extra step of trying to comteract the dictates of supply and demand forces so as to steer interest rates in the directions warranted by the business cy-

Abundant liquidity in the

cle or the current level of economic activity. Where this cycle is not apparent or identifiable, our guidelines are the goals of current economic policies. Now, interest rates in Jordan are floating. What are the analytical implications of this situation?

If there is excessive liquidity at a given time, interest on deposits will be depressed. But if current economic policy is interested in propping up these rates on the belief that higher rates encourage savings and the switching of foreign currency deposits into dinar deposits, that policy must be capable of influencing the liquidity in such a way as to force rates up. Otherwise floating interest rates would be an erroneous act of economic policy. The relevant point is therefore whether economic policy in developing countries commands the necessary armoury of appropriate policy instruments rather than which are smarter: floating or unfloating interest rates.

If the liquidity situation tightens and rates on loans start to creep up as to restrain development finance or push interest on housing loans to critical levels which destabilise the budget of average Jordanian households and threaten their economic security, the economic policy must be able to check rising interest rates. Otherwise, floating interest rates will also be an erroneous act no matter what the textbook interest rate theories

In the long run, the releasing of interest rates to move freely up and down with demand and supply forces could very well lead to the survival of the fittest in the crudest and coldest sense of the word. But how many corpses will have been accumulated by then in the economic and social battlefield? That is the question which ought to be raised and well-answered in the context of opting for floating or unfloating interest rate policies and adhering to the initial op-

Practically, what we have now in Jordan is a system of managed float and not a purely floating interest rate system. Banks are awash with fiquidity. What does that precisely mean: oversupply of domestic savings or inflow of foreign savings, that is foreign lending to residents? Or does it mean that the private sector is very reluctant to borrow, implying sluggish investment and thereby looming economic depression or at least a deepening of economic recession notwithstanding the economic correction programme?

By Dr. Abdalla Malki

In the latest periodical meeting held on April 5, 1990 between the Central Bank officials and leading bankers, the governor of the Central Bank of Jordan, Dr. Mohammad Said Nabulsi, noted that the interbank interest rates were declining while rates on deposits showed no signs of rising. This constituted a trend incompatible with the current monetary goal of raising in-terest on deposits so as to enhance savings. It offers an excellent opportunity to test whether we can influence floating interest rates and judge how good this system is to

Power of Nepal's king reduced

KATHMANDU — (R) — In just one week, Nepal's King Birendra has surrendered all but the legal form of the absolute power he wielded in his remote Himalayan

Born 20th in the Shah dynasty of the former princely state of Gorkha, 10th of his line to rule all Nepal, Birendra Bir Bikram Shah Dev inherited the world's only Hindu kingdom in 1972, barely 20 years after it was opened to the world.

Many illiterate villagers revere him as a descendant of the Hindu God Vishnu. Kathmandn's middle classes respected him as a nationalist symbol for an impoverished rectangle of land locked between the regional superpowers of India and China. Now the king is racing to meet

the demands of Nepal's people as they concertina years of political development into days. On April 8, Birendra lifted a 30-year ban on political parties, abruptly conceding the first de-

abruptly conceding the first demand of the Movement for Restoration of Democracy, which his government bad fought with police batons and bullets.

The MRD, which groups the

Liberal Nepali Congress Party with Communist factions, immediately called off their campaign.

The people of the Kathmandu

valley did not.

Accusing the politicians of betraying the dozens who died in the
seven-week MRD campaign.

raying the dozens who died in the seven-week MRD campaign, they demanded the immediate scrapping of the non-party Panchayat system of elected councils whose advice the king could take or reject at will.

On April 16, Birendra scrapped the key elements of the Panchavat system

He has yet to scrap the constitution which declares: "The sovereignty of Nepal is vested in his majesty and all powers — executive, legislative and judicial — emanate from him."

But he has promised a constitutional reform commission will be set up and his concessions of the past eight days have reduced these abolute powers to theory.

"The king himself is generally regarded as benign," said a Western diplomat recently.

The most radical opinion in Kathmandn endorsed the view. Underground student cartoons depicted a middle-aged monarch with horn-rimmed glasses, his moustache confined to a muzzle controlled by his queen, Aishwarya Rajya Laxmi Devi Shah.

She was the target of widespread but unsubstantiated rumours of vast wealth piled up at the royal palace of a nation where average annual income per head is \$160.

She was blamed for surrounding him with advisers who kept him 200 kilometres from the capital, at Pokhara, inspecting development projects funded by the West, while the Kathmanda valley witnessed police shooting demonstrators.

Born in Kathmandu on December 28, 1945, Birendra is the first of Nepal's rulers to get a formal education—eight years at a Jesuit school in Darjeeling, India, five at England's prestigious Eton College, a brief spell at the University of Tokyo and a

year at Harvard where he studied political theory, development economics and social problems.

economics and social problems.

As erown prince, in 1970
Birendra was put in charge of an
agency called the Investigation
Centre where be displayed a
youthful determination to get results from a tradition-bound,
slow-moving bureaucracy.

He travelled widely in the world before ascending the throne on the death of his father, Mahendra, on Jan. 31, 1972.

He was always shrouded by a mystique that left even senior diplomats baffled as to how much be chose to wield bis powers.

Those who won the rare hon-

Those who won the rare honour of an audience were required to remove their shoes, remain standing and speak, with a bow, only when spoken to.

Many reported that behind the

solemn facade they found a hardworking sovereign trying on his own terms to free Nepal from the top rankings of the world's poorest nations.

The spring of 1979 saw demon-

strations by students and workers against arbitrary government officials, corruption, inflation and the failure of fulfil rising expectations.

A small riot in Kathmandu

persuaded the king to announce a referendum on whether to continue with the panchayats or to replace them with a multi-party system.

The panchayats won by a nar-

row margin in 1980 referendum, which party politicians said was rigged.

In 1985 a series of bombings

rocked the capital. The king ordered a crackdown on students and political activists. He released some in 1988. This

He released some in 1988. This and other liberal gestures failed to satisfy the politicians.

Black U.S. Muslims are doing the right thing

By Sylvester Monroe

NOT too long ago, the gettogether in South Central Los Angeles would have been as difficult to imagine as a summit between Martin Luther King Jr. and Malcolm X. Last week 125 members of the First African Methodist Episcopal Church, the oldest and most influential black congregation in the city, traveled to a nearby mosque to worship with so-called black Muslims from the Nation of Islam. The following night the Muslims reciprocated by attending a service at the church,

The purpose was not to argue about "dogma and doctrine," said A.M.E. pastor Cecil Murray, but to "ask what we can do jointly to help take onr community back from drugs and crime." Such meetings, says Khalidi Abdul Muhammad, special assistant to Muslim leader Lonis Farrakhan, "put us into a position where black people are now turning to us for leadership."

Less than a decade ago, many blacks regarded the Nation of Islam as little more than bow-tied black nationalists, peddling bean pies and bawking newspapers on street corners from Harlem to Watts. While they commanded respect for their neat appearance and abstinence from eigarettes, alcohol and drugs, the Muslims' rigid religious strictures and separatist political views kept them on the fringes of main-

stream black America.

But today the Muslims have quietly established themselves as a welcome presence in black neighbourhoods. They have cleaned up a drug-infested

Washington apartment complex and run a model drug-treatment black programme on its premises. They have earned the respect and cooperation of gang members in Los Angeles and run effective anticrime patrols in New York City, Chieago, Detroit and

The well-disciplined Muslims are becoming role models for a generation of black youth. "The problem of confronting gang vicence and drugs is the responsibility of the black male," says Joseph H. Duff, president of the Los Angeles branch of the NAACP. "And Muslims have always been a symbol of strong black manhood." In Los Angeles more than, 1,000 black men, many of them former gang mem-bers, have recently joined the Nation Of Islam. One new recruit is James Johnson, 18. "They told me how we were killing ourselves and showed me what's really going on in society," says Johnson. "Minister Farrakhan has a vay of getting your attention."

Farrakhan's harsh thetoric and anti-Seinitic remarks have fright-ened whites and obscured the impact of the Nation's work in the black community. But his firebrand approach has also won over some blacks. "He is respected in the black community for his audacity," says Howard University political science professor Ronald Walters. "Supporting Farrakhan has become a way of hitting back at the system and expressing black public opnion." Says Abdul Wazir Muhammad, Minister of the Muslims' Los Angeles Mosque: "We are a barometer of the conditions and feel of the black community. If

you really want to know how black people feel, then watch the Muslims." Farrakhan's voice and the im-

Farrakhan's voice and the impact of his group's antidrug and anticrime work are resonating far beyond the houndaries of the Nation of Islam. Black filmmaker Spike Lee has spoilighted Farrakhan in his two most recent movies, School Daze and Do the Right Thing, and rap artists like Puhlic Enemy, Big Daddy Kane and others are now wearing the Islamic star and crescent.

And while black audiences have long been willing to support the Nation of Islam by flocking to hear Farrakhan's razoredged speeches, many people are not becoming just as willing to stand with his followers in the streets. When repeated clashes between Muslims and Los Angeles police and sheriffs resulted in the shooting death of a 27-year-old Muslim last January, many mainstream black organisations railied to supporte the group, something that had rarely happened in the past.

Even the police are beginning different light. After the confrontations in January, leaders of the Nation of Islam and several black organisations met with lawenforcement brass to ease the tensions between them. As a result, the Lost Angeles Police Department and county sheriffs developed training films to educate officers on the Nation of Islam. We now have a very positive working relationship with them," says deputy chief William Rathburn, commander of the LAPD's South Bureau. Time magazine

To the Editor:

Mr. Atiych's letter about the protest Organised by the ADC against the U.S. senators' stand on the Middle East (Jordan Times, April 15, 1990) surprises me.

The protest, as planned by the ADC, was meant to be

LETTERS

Non-violent protest

silent. We all knew that. If Mr. Atiyeh had wanted to protest in a different way why did he not organise one of his own? We should give the ADC credit for organising a protest which showed the U.S. senators that there are many people in Jordan who wish to show their anger and opposition in a certain way. I thought the organisers were extremely polite and dignified. What would Mr. Atiyeh have had them do? Shout insults and use physical violence? We were there from 9.30 to II.30 and found everyone very friendly and polite and we were certainly not brainwashed in any way. The banner that was taken from one of the children was not, in my opinion, offensive, but if the organisers were not happy

As for the chanting, when it started many people in the crowd started hushing them up as the whole point of the protest was that it would be one of silence and peace.

with the message, it seems to me that they have the right to take it

Mr. Atiyeh's whole attitude puzzles me. Would be have preferred the protest to have degenerated into an undignified exchange of insults and maybe physical violence?

P. Salti,

Distinguishing between bad and good

To the Editor

I READ a complaint from one of Sami Kamal's fans in the Jordan Times (April 15), in which the fan advises Radio Jordan to reconsider its decision and reinstate the DJ at the station for the fun and amusement he brought to many listeners.

Regardless of Sami's qualifications, dear fan, your letter and

Regardless of Sami's qualifications, dear fan, your letter and mine will make little impression, I am sure, on the decision-makers at Radio Jordan, because they either cannot distinguish between bad and good, or they simply don't care.

In my opinion, Sami Kamal is a highly talented person. It is not he who will suffer. It is Radio Jordan's popularity that will. My advice to you, dear Sami, is never to look back. Remember that they are the ones who let you down. Go abroad and come back only when it is time. Time to be employed on a true competitive basis, for what a person is not for who he is. It is true that our country has politically democratised, but it still lives under an evil social rule that is called nepotism.

Ibrahim Alhiyari P.O. Box 961622

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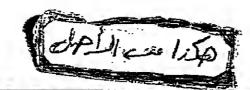


Andy Capp



Peanuts





OUT OF FOCUS

Expensive juice on a dry highway

By Adnan Acil Sa'id

THE OTHER DAY I was riding with a friend along the main Amman-Aqaba highway. Both of us were a little impatient since we had to reach Ma'an early.

"Do you have any wasta with police?" asked my friend taking her eyes off the road for a moment. "What for?" I asked. "If I speed and get caught you will have to fix them," she said.

Before I could reply that I did not have that kind of connections nor did I think such wasta worked, we were flagged down by a traffic policeman. Sore enough, it was a speed trap. Both of us got out, went to the police car parked nearby to join several others awaiting their turn and talking to three other policemen inside the

non or an orange?" asked one of the policemen who was busy collecting money and issuing receipts. One of them at the back was writing pink tickets for speeding. The strange question over fruits was obviously directed at one of his colleagues. "It's a lemon," came the reply from the colleague, who had his ears clamped to a walkie-talkie. "One hundred and three for the

It took a minute before the idea sank in that it was the rate of speed for one of the cars trapped by radar control and that the exact speed of the car and speed limit of the zone are pertinent to determining the fine. "Five dinars," said the writing policeman, collected a fiver, issued a receipt and handed over the ticket and

"Again it's a lemon," shouted the policeman with the walkie-talkie. "One hundred and two for the Opel."

The fine-collecting process was repeated, but this time the driver of the Opel tried to argue that as far as he could remember the sign post farther back on the road said it was a 100-kilometre zone. "Drive back, check again and come back to pay the fine," he was told by one of the policemen. "I don't have to check," replied the

"Are you telling us that you know better than us, who are here almost every day?" came an angry retort from the policeman. "You

had better pay." And then it was my friend's turn. She produced her driver's licence and vehicle licence and kept a fiver ready.

"It's an orange," came the shout. "One hundred and fourteen for the Honda. "Ten dinars please," said the cash collector, preparing himself to

write a receipt.

"Why?" asked my friend. "Why five dinars from everyone and ten from me?"

"Because you were driving at 114 kilometres in a 90-kilometre zone," came the reply. "Otthers were caught at less than 110

Finding herself facing the choice, my friend paid JD 10, collected her licences and of course the pink ticket and receipt. As we were walking away, we heard: "Enough picking of lemons and oranges today friends. Let's call it a day."

King, Arafat hold talks

(Continued from page 1)

remarks, "We have always confronted and countered these dangers. We shall remain — despite ali obstacles - steadfast," he

said.
"Our joint steadfastness has enabled us always to overcome the dangers," he told the PLO delegation. "Our search for peace is irreversible, without compromising the land or our rights," he pledged.

His Majesty stressed contidence in the inevitability of the Arab Nation's victory and attainment of its goals.

Arafat replied by expressing gratitude for the warm reception accorded to him and stressed commitment to the joint Jordanian-Palestinian march.

"We have always been Jordanians and Palestinians one family in Jordan and in Palestine and we shall always remain so," Arafat

"It is our great destiny to remain in the first trench and our faith and convictions dictates on us to remain faithful to the sacred bond which has united and will always unite us," Arafat said.

Arafat stressed that Jordan and the PLO need each other more than ever before. "If the 1948 disaster affected Palestine, the Soviet Jewish immigration poses a similar disaster to the whole Arab World," Arafat warned.

"In the past the target (for the Israelis) was Palestine but now the target is the Arab World," he

In his arrival comments. Arafat said early Tuesday that some American officials were backing Israeli hardliners and shared hlame for Israel's political dead-

What happened in Israel was made up by some circles in the American administration who want (hardliner) Yitzhak Shamir and not Shimon Peres (in pow-

er)," Arafat told reporters. These circles only want to give more unlimited support for the Israeli occupation.

Arafat did not identify the officials but made clear he was not blaming President George Bush or Secretary of State James Baker. He said they had shown good intentions in trying to move forward the stalled peace process in the Middle East.

One year after

(Continued from page 1)

opposition since the founding of the Kingdom, swiftly moved to upstage the House and clear the way towards democracy by introducing the political reforms, which are seen today as following a determined course towards political pluralism.

While essentially implementing the course of economic action initiated under Sharif Zeid, including the rescheduling of a major part of the Kingdom's deht repayments due in 1990 and 1991, the Badran government has had little success in curbing inflation, alleviating the unemployment problem and checking the decline of the dinar's purchasing power; a combination of factors seen as guarantors of harder times ahead not just for the people of Ma'an but the whole country. The progress that the gov-

ernment has achieved in cutting the budget deficit and improving the balance of payments by reducing imports and increasing exports has yet to reach the average man and woman. The government has focused more attention on the sonth which inspired the dramatic changes in the country but the message in the south was somewhere in between - hread not democracy

and bread with democracy. When Badran went on a tour of the southern regions to supervise relief efforts for the drought-stricken regions, he held informal meetings with the residents and listened to their complaints and demands. During one of these meetings, an old man, oblivious to the formalities of the occasion, stood up and told the distressed prime minister: "We need a sewerage system more than democracy.

(Continued from page 1) Church of the Holy Sepulcher

Israel's religion minister visited the Old City Tuesday attempting to allay Christian and Muslim outrage over the Easter week

Religious Affairs Minister Zevolun Hammer said he was trying to case tension surrounding the controversial settlement but the Greek Othodox Church declared the dispute would end only when the settlers departed.

"I came here to try to calm the situation. This should be a civil problem, not one of religion,"

"Every citizen of Jerusalem has the right to live wherever he buys property according to the law." the minister said, carefully avoiding an ontright endorsement of

Patriarch Diodoros I said after talks with Hammer: "This problem will not be solved until the



Refugee Mustafa Shiab and his family cross into the East Bank Deeing the fighting in 1967. His was one hoping they could return home in a matter of weeks

or months. (Right) a scene from one of the refugee

ary resugee but which have become almost perma

Palestinian refugees survive on dreams

By Rana Sabbagh Reuters

SUKHNEH, Jordan - For Diah Hassan, the dream that he will one day return to Palestine makes the reality of his life in a squalid refugee camp in Jordan just about bearable

"We try to put up with tough living conditions here because we all live on the hope of returning to our land," says Hassan, a middle-aged stonemason who fled his West Bank home in 1967 when Israeli troops arrived.

He is one of hundreds of thousands of Palestinians who took refuge in Jordan, Syria, Lebanon or Egypt when Israel was created in 1948 or during the 1967 Middle East war.

Hassan, who lives in the shantytown of Sukhneh 50 kilometres from Amman, faces a common dilemma — whether to cling to his refugee status in the hope of going home, or to leave the camp and integrate into Jordan.

Most refugees from the West Bank are Jordanian citizens, as the territory belonged to Jordan before Israel occupied it in 1967. But if they live outside the

camps, they lost united Nations aid. And the existence of the camps, the refugees feel, is a powerful symbol of their displacement that makes an eventual return to Palestine more

For the time being Hassan has chosen to stay in Sukhneh, a jumble of muddy alleys and

hreeze-block houses thrown up over the last two decades and housing 6,000 people. They hve cheek-hy-jowl, seven

or eight to a room. Sheep and goats snuffle in the dirt in small coutryards outside. Houses have running water and electricity, but there is no piped sewage system and fouled water

runs down open drains along the middle of the alleys. Crumbling tarred roads lead to the camp. Najah Misleh says she and her husband were childless when they fled their home in 1967.

"Now we share a roof with our 10 children, including a married son and his two boys," she sighs. "None of us has any privacy. When one is ill, the disease spreads like lightning."

Israel has long accused Jordan and other Arab countries of keeping Palestinians in refugee settlements as a political weapon in the Arab-Israeli conflict. Jordanian officials acknow-

ledge that the camps have a sym-"The camps...are viewed as an aspect of a political problem that

has not yet been solved," Ahmad Qatanani, head of the Foreign Ministry's Department for Palestinian Affairs, told Reuters.

"Meanwhile we try our best, with the help of the United Nations Relief and Works Agency (UNRWA), to make living conditions as close as possible to those of the nearby communities," he

He added that he had rejected many requests from refugees wanting to add new rooms to their houses on the grounds that such improvements would make the camps permanent.

"Refugees can do anything they want outside the camps but if they want 10 remain inside. they have to abide by the temporary laws that govern them." he

UNRWA says that less than a quarter of the 916,000 refugees registered with it in Jordan still live in camps.

The agency recognises 10 refugee camps and also provides limited services to three other Palestinian settlements. Amman regards all 13 townships as re-

Refugees hope the 28-monthold uprising in the Israeli-occu-pied West Bank and Gaza Strip, plus the declaration of a Palestinian state by the Palestine Liberation Organisation in 1988, have improved their chances of

eventually going home. But some are disheartened by an influx of Soviet Jews to Israel, fearing that many will settle in the occupied areas, Israel has said 750,000 Soviet Jews could arrive in the next five years.

"My children don't know what their home town looks like," said refugee Jalil Salameh, a farmer. "But since the start of the uprising, they all want to go there and fight the enemy."

Hideout turns historic lan

By Pierre Albert Lambert

On a steep hillside, a small house with grey shutters, standing in a shady gardeo, takes us back a century and a half in the past, to the time when Paris was still a collection of villages. The village of Passy was renowned for its springs. It was here that the French 19th century writer, Honore de Balzac, hid from his creditors for seven years.

As he was pursued, he passed himself off as Mr. de Breugnol (the oame of his housekeeper) when, in 1842, he rented the first floor of the house, described above from a rich hutcher in Passy. Today, this house has become a museum and world centre for research on Balzac.

> The house appealed to him as it had two exits. one on Rue Basse (Rue Raynouard today), and the other helow, reached by a hidden staircase. Using the latter, one could furtively flee towards Paris along the banks of the Seine. An extra precaution against the bailiffs who pestered Bal-zac and made life impossible for him was that a password had to be given by anyone wanting to enter the house. Protected in this way, the novelist, wearing his loose monkish robe, could thus get down to work.

He worked feverishly during

those fruitful years and the results are evoked in those small, darkly papred rooms. One can find the characters of the "Comedie Humaine" most of whom, like Balzac, sought fame and fortune.

Paintings, engravings, statues, manuscripts and personal objects partly recreate the atmosphere which surrounded the "hermit of Passy", but only partly, as, at the time, Balzac went through a phase of hric-abrac mania, huying op just about anything.
He described his work-sche-

dule to Madame Hanska, the great love of his life: "Work. my darling, means getting up every night at midnight, writing till eight, having lunch in a quarter of an hour, working till five, going to bed and starting again the next day."

In the middle of his study stands the small table at which the writer used to work and about which he wrote to his Polish countess: "It has lived through all my misery, wiped away all my tears and heard all my thoughts. My arm has almost worn it away from moving across it as I write". At this table, he wrote "Splendeurs et Miseres des Courtisanes", "Le Cousin Pons", "La Cousine Bette" and a few others. Behind him, within reach in

the library, stands the famous coffee-pot which helped him find inspiration. Every night, he drank twenty to thirty cups from it. And there is his walking-stick "with swirls of turquoises and a sculpted gold knob" that he was so proud of.

Although, at the time, the writer's residence had been surrounded by orchards, it had not been the haven of peace he had dreamed of. He complained about his noisy neighbours and reproached his landlord for having accepted five "proletarian households with proletarian children who make such a row that I am unable to

Paintings, engravings statues, manuscripts and personal objects partly recreate the atmosphere which surrounded the "hermit of Passy," but only partly, as, at the time, Balzac went through a phase of bric-a-brac mania, buying up just about anything,

He was also inconvenienced by the heat: "It is fifteen degrees too hot in my study as the washerwoman helow has a fire going like in a steam en-gine". In this house, Bilzac received the writers who, he thought, would help him to he admitted to the Academie Francaise ("I am going to try and cannon-blast my way into

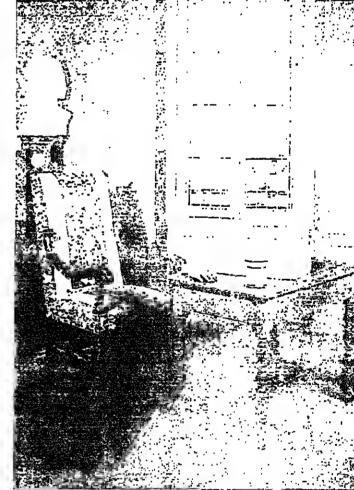
it"). But he was never to be accepted. Every year, the Balzac

museum becomes richer with new acquisitions and donations, for instance the gold watch with the (usurped) crest of the De Balzac family which a Swiss watchmaker had made for him and to which he was very attached. In order to thank one of his friends, Sylvain Gavault, who had helped him to get out of his financial difficulties, Balzac had bequeathed it to him in his will. Years went by when, a few months ago, out of the hive, an old lady turned up at Balzac's house in Rue Raynouard: "It's for the museum", she said,

great-great-uncle, Sylvain During the past year, some thirty thousand people have visited Balzac's house. For a number of years, Balzac has been the most widely read French author abroad, particularly in the USSR and Japan.

holding out the watch of her

'Balzac's Paris cabin is also the headquarters of a highly active research centre", points out Madame Judith Pent, the curator. "We receive researchers and students from Europe, Japan, the United States and even China. Our correspondents send us the latest studies devoted to him, from all over the world". Balzac is more alive than ever. -(L'Actualite en France).



Balzac's 'office'

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Court orders eviction

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Oil market awaits Jeddah talks outcome

NICOSIA (Agencies) — The oil ministers of Kuwait and the United Arab Emirates (UAE) arrived in Saudi Arabia Tuesday for talks that could decide whether the Organisation of Petrolenm Exporting Countries (OPEC) should hold an urgent meeting to try to arrest a sharp slide in world nil prices.

The Sandi Press Agency (SPA), received in Cyprus, said Kuwait's Sheikh Ali Khalifa Al Sabah and Mana Sa'id Al Oteiba nf the UAE were greeted by their Saudi counterpart Hisham Nazer, who was hosting the talks at his house in the Red Port city of Jeddah later Tuesday night.

SPA gave no details on the nature of the discussions but OPEC ministers and other oil industry executives are waiting for the three Gulf Arah producers to cut their rampant output to prop up falling oil prices.

of the 1.5 million barrels per day excess in output above OPEC's self-imposed ceiling of 22.086

The surplus has pushed down the price of OPEC's "b-sket" of seven key crudes around \$3 to \$15.20 a barrel this week. Last December it was over \$20.

OPEC President Sadek Boussena of Algeria and Libyan Oil Minister Fawzi Shakshouki said in a joint statement Tuesday that they were ready fur immediate talks by the group's 13 oil ministers to restore prices to 18 dollars.

But Nigeria's Jibril Aminu said that OPEC would wait for the nutcome of the Jeddah talks before the group decides whether nr nnt to call for an emergency

"If it seems as if the meeting nf the three ministers could result in sume decision which could meet," Aminn told Reuters in

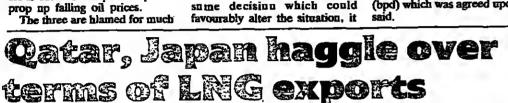
OPEC is scheduled to convene its undinary biannual conference in Geneva May 25.

A joint statement by the Libyan and Algerian ministers read to Reuters by the official did not identify the countries who were breaking OPEC's output quota regulations.

He also declined comment on the Jeddah meeting Tuesday. "This (price plunge) has caused heavy damage to the economy

and interest of the OPEC mem-

bers," the statement said. This damage is threatening the unity and solidarity of the organisation. The OPEC countries will be asked to abide to the production shares and the ceiling set at 22 million harrels per day (bpd) which was agreed upon," it



DUBA1 (R) - Qatar and prospective Japanese customers fur the liquefied natural gas (LNG) from its vast north field are still haggling over the price of gas in a long-term supply agreement, Gulf oil industry sources

The price issue is difficult, but it will be solved. Qatari authorities know that if it is not solved, the whole deal could collapse," a Gulf-based oil industry official

However, other analysts believe Oatar General Petroleum Corporation (QGPC), which has started developing the world's biggest single natural gas field, might decide not to sell the gas if they think the price is too low.

Two schools of thought

"There is a school of thought in Qatar which would prefer to wait until the year 2000 for natural gas demand to increase, rather than to sell at a price which is not attractive to them now," one analyst said.

The sources said Qatar's plans to sell natural gas to its neighbours, especially to Dubai and

One Sterling One U.S. dollar

Toesday, April 17, 1990

LONDON EXCHANGE RATES

LONDON (R) - Fullowing are the buying and selling rates for

leading world currencies and gold against the dollar at midday on

the London foreign exchange and bullion markets Tuesday.

1.1690/1700

1.6808/15

1.8931/34

1.4921/28

5.6450/6500

1234/1235

159.72/82

6.1145/95

6.5415/65

One ounce of guld 373.80/374.20

bare 1.58 points to 28,461.60.

fell three points to 1.634.1.

ended 9.8 points higher at 2,126.34.

down about four points to 2,759.01.

6.4095/4145

World Stock Markets

TOKYO — Tukyo share prices closed mixed after index-linked

and general selling amid mounting currency concerns forced share

prices off their earlier highs at the close. The Nikkei Index eased a

HONG KONG -- Shares ended higher as relief over an absence of

political unrest in China and the colony during the holiday

weekend boosted the market's blue-chip stocks gauge. The Hang Seng Index ended 24.75 points higher at 3,020.44.

SINGAPORE — The Singapore Stock Market closed slightly weaker in thin and lethargic trading. The Straits Times Industrial Index shed 4.34 points to 1,526.63.

BOMBAY - Indian share prices shrugged off lethargy to recover

broadly when trading resumed after a long weekend. The

FRANKFURT — West German shares closed mixed in a cautious,

reticent market. The 30-share Dax fell 3.82 points to 1,914.35.

ZURICH -- Swiss shares closed quietly lower after prices edged

back from a firmer opening due to a lack of buying interest. The

SPI index ended 1.9 points easier at 1.074.7 while the SMI index

PARIS - French share prices ended higher in quiet trading,

setting another new closing high on the CAC-40 index. The index

LONDON — U.K. shares were pulled slightly lower after some U.S. economic data pushed Wall Street lower in early trading.

NEW YORK - Technical strength and a second look at a sharp

rise in industrial output helped stocks regain much of their early

losses. By 1740 GMT the Dow Jones Industrial Average was

The FTSE index closed 7.6 points down at 2,214.5.

Bombay Stock Exchange Index rose 6.79 points to 755.58.

34.76/81

Set

674.0

1096.9 400.9 451.4 119.4

670.0

1090.4 398.5 448.7

maybe to Oman and Kuwait, are still possible, but progress was slow due to costs of constructing pipelines and to uncertainty over

the price of gas in the lung term.
A team frum QGPC had travelled to Japan last February to present the details of a plan to supply around six million tonnes per year of LNG fur 20 years to three Japanese power companies. Another round of discussions with prospective buyers in Japan is planned for May, the sources

Japanese companies plan to use natural gas for power generation in the next few decades as it is a relatively clean source of But producers in the Pacific

area can compete with Qatar on prices to Japan due to lower transportation costs. The cost of the Qatar project is

estimated at \$6 billion, including field development, gas plants and tankers. It would take up to five years to complete.

Japanese yea (for 100) 419.2 421.7 Dutch guilder 333.9 356.0 Swedish crown 109.5 110.2

Canadian dollar

Deutschemarks

Dutch guilders

Swiss francs

Belgian francs

French francs

Japanese yen

Swedish crowns

Danish crowns

U.S. dollars

Norwegian crowns

Italian lire

Italian lice (for 100)

QGPC has as a 70 per cent share in Qatargas, which was set up in 1984 to market LNG. Other

Japan's Marubeni, and Mitsui and Company Ltd, all with 7.5 per

"Qatar is now evaluating the long-term LNG sales price in relation to what it can earn if it utilises the gas at home," an oil

industry analyst said. Natural gas from the first phase development of the north field, which hes under shallow waters of the Gulf offshore Qatar, will start flowing next year, but it will initially be used for domestic

Qatar will use most uf the 800 million cubic metres of gas to be produced in the first phase in power generation and desalination plants and to develop its existing and future local industries to diversify its economy.

Isuzu jointly

It plans to expand its petrochemicals and fertiliser plants and sell gas to a planned aluminium smelter which will initially be set up without any Qatari financial participation.

But analysts in the region said talks on the aluminium smelter with groups are also progressing slowly, and the price of the gas sharehulders are British Pet-roleum, Total-CFP of France, was the main issue blocking an agreement.



days. As Eastern Europe is moving towards a free maket economy which will enable the hitherto hardine Communist countries' people to have

better access to basic conby the U.N. has found that the transition will be

U.N. says E. Europe's reform process long, risky

GENEVA (AP) - Eastern Europe's journey into a free market economy will likely be risky. long and laborious, said a United

Nations study published Tuesday. Recession will only deepen in the region's emerging democra-cies before reforms bear fruit, said the study, compiled by analysts of the U.N. Economic Commission for Europe.

"The immediate prospects for Eastern Europe and the Soviet Union are bleak," said the 405page report, which called the region's economic performance last year probably the worst since immediately after World War II.

The authors cantioned against "shock treatment" approach to creating market-hased economies, saying that if hopes for a rapid recovery were dashed, governments would "risk an explosive social situation."

They proposed an "evolutionary approach" to reform that would portray the establishment of competitive markets as a difficult and lengthy process needing careful government intervention. Consistent Western support is

vital, the report said. Western nations should focus on technical advice and help in building the legal, financial and institutional infrastructure necessary for a competitive market

economy. The authors said it would be wrong to assume that a new version of the 1948 Marshall Plan aid programme that helped Western Europe recover from the war would solve Eastern Europe's problems today.

The basic structures of a manket economy have to be largely created in the East whereas in the West they were never completely abandoned."

The authors suggested creating an arrangement similar to the 1950 European Payment Union which helped stimulate trade and cumpetition among Western European countries.

Such an intermediate plan. they said, would require only moderate financial aid and would allow a gradual and disciplined change in the Eastern Enropean nations' trade and payments sys-

Reviewing last year's economic performance, the survey said gross industrial production increased by a mere 0.3 per cent in Eastern Europe, excluding the Soviet Union.

In the Soviet Union it was 1.7 per cent. The 1988 rates were 3.5 per cent and 3.9 per cent respectively. Gross agricultural output in the entire region grew by merely 0.8 per cent.

Domestic imbalances were also listed as worse than at any time since the early postwar years. In Poland, inflation was 254 per cent last year. The Soviet budget deficit reached 10 per cent of the gross domestic product

debt amounted to almost two thirds of the GDP. At the same time, savings deposits reached new highs in all countries surveyed, except Po-

(GDP). In Hungary, domestic

Stagnating exports and a seven per cent increase in imports caused the Soviet trade balance to turn from a \$3.5-billion surplus to a 5.5-billion deficit. The overall trade surplus of the other countries contracted from \$7 billion to \$6 billion.

Net Soviet indebtedness was estimated to have increased spectacularly by more than one-third, from \$26.5 billion to \$36.4 billion owed the West. Poland remained the leading Eastern European debtor with \$36.5 billion owed, up \$900 million from last year.

Commenting on the Soviet economic situation, the survey said the "gap between expectations and reality in economic development" has increasingly widened.

Observations

The survey uffered these observations on other countries: - Czechoslovakia has managed to avoid the large imbalances experienced by most other Eastern European countries. Thus, it can focus on economic reform without having to worry about the added complication of a stabilisation programme. It can also borrow more because of a debt of only \$8 billion.

- Hungary faces the likely prospects of higher memployment, big price swings and a fail in living standards. "Social con-flicts will likely come to the surface," said the report.

- Poland's official projections, because of the "considerable risks and uncertainties involved, may be too optimistic," the study said. However, "it is widely recognised that there was no alternative to the severe austerity measures proposed by the govern-

- East Germany: West Germany exports may be cut back in favour of deliveries to East Germany, given the high East German demand for consumer and investment goods. Economic activity abroad, particularly Western Europe, will be stimulated by a demand for imports in both German states.

ettend an informal ministerial

meeting of 29 member nations of

the GATT, where issues such as

market access, agriculture, trade

in services and trade-related in-

At the meeting, Japan will urge

settlement of a "maximum pack-

age" of trade issues by the end of

the year, when the current Uru-

guay round concludes, said a

senior Foreign Ministry official

vestments will be discussed.

HOROSCOPE

FORECAST FOR WEDNESDAY APRIL 18, 1990 By Thomas S. Pierson, Astrologer, Carroll Righter Foundation

GENERAL TENDENCIES: A fairly unimportant and indifferent sort of a day when you could gain the unusual inspiration to achieve long desired goals that have been pending on the back burner.

ARIES: (March 21 to April 19) Whatever your usual activities whether at the office, on the road, at shops or places of business etc. make sure you are very exact in TAURUS: (April 20 to May 20) A

fine day for you to get into whatever arrangements concerning enter-tainment or recreation that requires more than ordinary in-GEMINI: (May 21 to June 21) A

more thorough appraisal of what is needed to make your own dwelling more attractive and comfortable can be gained by studying periodicals etc.

MOON CHILDREN: (June, 22 to July 21) Show you are the one who can shop and find the articles that you or those close to you need in order to have articles that are

LEO: (July 22 to August 21) All aspects of your money matters now-will be very much helped by a very close scrutiny on your part of your various assets and liabilities.

VIRGO: (August 22 to September 22) You like everything in perfec-tion and this is the day for you to consider subjectively just what you want and get it organised in this

LIBRA: (September 23 tto Octo-ber 22) Think in terms of confidential information now and you you can best keep to yourself and utilise data unwise for outsiders to know about.

SCORPIO: (October 23 to November 21) Highly experienced friends are the best persons to approach to get some support for gaining a cherished longing that seems to be cluding you.

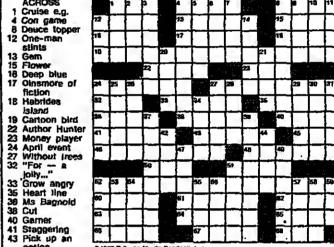
SAGITTARIUS: (November 22 to December 21) Whatever duties as e good citizen face you, this is the time to get at and complete them so that you will have the backing of

CAPRICORN: (December 22 to James y 20) There are new sources of information available to you that gives you an insight into proven methods that can enhance your present prosperity.

AQUARIUS: (January 21 to February 19) Take no chances where any promises you have made or obliga-tions assumed for you can handle them now successfully by a scrupu-lous course of action.

PISCES: February 20 to March 20) Its a fine day for you to contact any partners who are close by and to discuss at length until an agree-ment so reached whatever prob-

THE Daily Crossword by Louis Santrey



45 —-Magnon 46 Ingle fuel 48 Kind of snake 50 Small dog for 9 Castle to

Actor Ray 61 Sheer linen 14 Marx brother 62 Fowl food 20 M. Montand 21 Wagnerian role 64 Sub apparatus 65 Old It. city 24 Straw bundle 86 Mountain pool 25 Artial Matisse 67 Earns 26 Baskel wood 68 Erwin of old 27 Signaled in a way and strain strains.

DOWN 1 — avali (useless) 2 Medley 3 Plant disease

option

Saarinen 37 Way below 39 Entertainers 42 Ukrainian city 44 "This — man" James and Rod 5 Panama city 8 Lhasa — (dog

47

Yesterday's Puzzle Solved Kasparov 10 Thrail of yore 11 Calendar span

28 Indication

29 Build 30 Hard look

Chair back Send lioating

— podrida Scent run 59 "-- walks in 53 auty...

THE BETTER HALF, By Harris HARRIS 3-6 "I'm not fat! I'm just overstuffed

with charm and charisma!"

Japan on a carrot- and-stick

TOKYO (R) — Japanese carmaker Isuzu Motors has invented e battery it says can be recharged in 10 seconds and produces 20 times more

conventional batteries. Isuzu and Fnji Electrochemical, which jnintly announced the development Monday, expect to start commercial sales of the battery in

The battery uses activated carbon and diluted sulphuric acid and should cause fewer environmental problems than mercury-based and other conventinnal types of battery, he said.

The new battery may be produced in different shapes and may be used in home appliances as well as cars, the spokesman said.

recharge.

tery on its own initially, then jointly developed prototypes with Fuji Electrochemical, the spokesman said.

the Tokyo stock exchange on Tuesday at bids of 720 year (\$4.50) each, after closing trade Monday at 650 yen (\$4.06).

> **Jordan Times** Tel. 667171

develops high-power lightweight battery

power for its weight than

two yers, a spokesman for Isuzu said Tuesday.

They have already produced a 1.2 volt, coin-sized version un a trial basis. be

Isuzu Motors, which is 38.2 per cent owned by General Motors of the United States, is developing an electric car using the new battery, he said, adding that conventional car batteries generally need eight or more hours in

Isuzu developed the bat-Isuzu shares were quoted on

policy over trade with U.S. United States Puerto Vallarta, Mexico, to

TOKYO (AP) — Japan is eager tn settle U.S. concerns, but would seek measures against the United States in an international forum if it retaliates against Japan for its trading practices, a government spokesman said Tuesday. Under a 1988 trade law, the

United States each year listscountries it says engage in unfair trade. The countries face sanctions if the issues are not resolved in negotiations.

This year's preliminary list is due out later this month. Last year, Japan's markets for supercomputers, satellites and wood products were listed. The

two countries have resolved U.S. objections over supercomputers and satellites, but talks on lumber stalled in Tnkyo last week. If the issue is not resolved by June 16, the United States could levy stiff tariffs nu Japan's exports to the

If the United States retaliates. Japan would take the matter to the General Agreement nn Tariffs and Trade (GATT) in Geneva, Foreign Ministry Spokesman Taizo Watanabe

But be added that Japan hopes trade settlements can be reached in a "more friendly" manner. "If they want to list us again, that's their business," Watanabe told reporters at a hriefing. "Our

position is that any approach to force other nations into trade concessions under threat of unilateral action: cannot be tolerated. Majur automakers said last

week they feared Japan's auto parts industry may be targeted this year.

Fureign Minister Taro Nakayama leaves Wednesday for

who asked not to be named. Foreign Ministry officials said Nakayama will meet with U.S. trade representative Carla Hills.

He will ask Hilts not to name Japan on the new list of unfair traders and the two will also discuss a final report on the bilateral structual impediments initiative (SII) talks to be announced in July, they said.

Deutsche Bank heads East

FRANKFURT (R) — West Germany's biggest bank, Deutsche Bank AG, took a decisive step into the East German market Tuesday when it announced plans in set up a juint bank with East Germany's Deutsche Kreditbank

In one move, Deutsche bopes to gain control over a third of existing bank branch offices in East Germany. But banking analysts say

Dentsche will have to work hard to secure in East Germany the strong position it already has in the West German market. Deutsche had a 1989 balance sheet total of 344 billion marks (\$205 billion). East Germany's Deutsche Kre-

month when the East German state bank split off its commercial activities. It is still managed by the state bank. Deutsche said it would hold 49 per cent of the new joint bank, which will be based in East Ber-

ditbank was created earlier this

The new bank aimed to take over about 100 of East Germany's 300 to 400 existing branch offices.

Analysts said the joint venture left Deutsche poised for a takeover bid for Kreditbank. "Ultimatety, their main goal will be to get a controlling interest," said Christoph Steinback at Security Pacific Hoare Govett Securities Ltd in

"Deutsche has made the first step again," said Alexander Vollet of Citibank. "Their strategic goal is clear - to be number one in all of Germany."

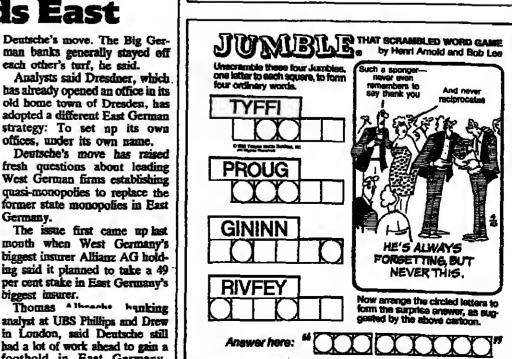
Deutsche Kreditbank bas also said it is negotiating with Dresdner Bank AG, West Germany's second largest bank, but analysts note that the best of Kredithank's branch offices will already have been scooped up by Deutsche and the joint venture.

Steinbach said he doubted Dresdner would enter into a joint venture with Kreditbank after Deutsche's move. The Big German banks generally stayed off each other's turf, he said.

Analysts said Dresdner, which has already opened an office in its old home town of Dresden, has adopted a different East German strategy: To set up its own offices, under its own name. Deutsche's move has raised fresh questions about leading

former state monopolies in East Germany. The issue first came up last mouth when West Germany's biggest insurer Allianz AG holding said it planned to take a 49 per cent stake in East Germany's biggest insurer.

Thomas Albeache hanking analyst at UBS Phillips and Drew in London, said Deutsche still had a lot of work ahead to gain a foothold in East Germany. Dentsche would control 100 branch offices but it would still need to train its employees and build up a range of new products.



Jumbles: GULCH HUMID PRIEZE SINGLE

Answer: The soprano stood on the balcony so she could do this—SING "HIGHER"

Marseille looks for Europe Cup

LONDON (R) — Chris Waddle sure be doesn't escape," Benfiand Jean-Pierre Papin, Marseille's seemingly irresistible Anglo-French strike force, aim to outwit Benfica Wednesday and propel a French club into the European Cup final for the first time in

But Marseille must also make sure their defence holds as they take a 2-1 first leg lead to Lisbon for the semifinal return and seek the right to meet either Italian holders: A.C. Milan or West German former champions Bayern Munich in the final in Vienna on May 23.

Bavern, who need to overturn a 1-0 first leg deficit in Munich. were the club who thwarted the last French European Cup finalists, St. Ettienne, back in 1976. Bayern, who had knocked St. Etienne out in the semifinals the previous season, collected the trophy for the third successive year with that victory but have

not won it since. Twice beaten finalists in the past decade, Bayern held out in Milan two weeks ago until Dutch striker Marco Van Basten netted a late penalty, leaving the return

leg delicately poised. Marseille, like Milan, take a siender one-goal advantage into the perilous away leg.

Papin, who has scored in six of his seven European Cup outings this season, gave them that edge after team mate Franck Sauzee had responded swiftly to an early Benfica strike by Adesualdo

"There must always be a fast player to mark Papin and make

AMELIA ISLAND, Florida

(AP) - Just when the third

longest winning streak in

women's tennis history looked

her status as the world's no. 1

unimpressive performances,

trounced Arantxa Sanchez Vicar-

io 6-1, 6-0 Sunday to win the

Banseh and Lomb cham-

The victory extended Graf's

winning streak to 57 matches

since Sanchez Vicario heat her in

last year's French Open final.

Martina Navratilova had streaks

of 74 matches in 1984 and 58 in

Right now, though, the West

German is more concerned with

the consistency of ber game fol-

WITH OMAR SHARIF & TANNAH HIRSCH

Neither vulnerable. East deals.

+ AQJ62

EAST

♠KQJ5

♦ A Q 8 4

North

2 ♠ 3 ♣

£ 1989 Tribung Media Se

NORTH **±** 9862 ♥ Q8 ♦ **K** 7

SOUTH

AAT4 CAKJ62

P255

Pass

Pass

Pass

The difference between ordinary and great players is that run-of-the-mill players make mistakes,

while experts create catastrophes!

Consider this hand from the 1989

European Team Championships. In one room, the Swedes played

in three no trump and made 11

tricks by the simple expedient of

WEST

♠ 10 3

♥ 10 7 4 3

♦ 9 6 5 3

★ K 10 9

The bidding:

Dы

Pass

Cinema

Rdbl

3 7

Pass

Opening lead: Ten of 4

Graf, shrugging off a pair of

vulnerable, Steffi Graf reaffirmed

ca's Swedish coach Sven Eriksson ' said before the return.

Marseille are the only team in the semifinal quartet never to have won the trophy and have spent a fortune in their bid to become the first French club to capture it.

Reims, beaten by Real Madrid in the inaugural final in 1956 and victims of the Spanish maestros again in 1959, and St. Etienne are the only French clubs to have reached the final.

But England winger Waddle, buoyant after scoring twice in Saturday's 2-0 win over archrivals Bordeaux which lifted Marseille to the top of the domestic league table; says his club are the pick of the last four.

"Of the four Enropean Cup semifinalists, Marseille are the best. And if 1 fear anyone it's Bayern rather than Milan. Bayern are more solid in every situation," he told the sports daily l'Equipe.

Marseille, however, must first dispose of Benfica, European Cup champions back in 1961 and 1962. The French club's destiny may depend on former international goalkeeper Jean Castaneda, who has looked decidedly jittery since he was drafted into the side after first-choice keeper Gaetan Huard broke a leg in the quarter-finals.

Benfica warmed up for the fray with a 3-1 win over Braga in the Estadio Da Luz where they expect 120,000 fans to roar them on

against Marseille. Swedish striker Mats Magnus-

lowing her return from a two-

month layoff due to a broken

right thumb. She passed ber first

test, but not without a few an-

Graf uncharacteristically made

42 unforced errors while beating

Carling Bassett-Seguso in the

quarterfinals and had 49 more

before defeatiang Natalia

Meanwhile, Sanchez Vicario

rolled along against Helen Kelesi

and Gabriela Sabatini and en-

tered Sunday's final confident she

(in the quarterfinals and semifin-

als), but I knew what I was doing

wrong," said Graf, who defeated Sanchez Vicario in 47 minutes.

coach about what to do. It was

taking two finesses in clubs. In the

other room, the Bulgarians reached four hearts. It might seem that the same 11 tricks were there by adopt-

ing the same approach (baby play, some might say), but declarer man-aged to foul up his timing. The re-

sult was quite remarkable.

Declarer won the opening spade

lead in hand and drew trumps in

four rounds. Now, South took a winning club finesse, but he found

himself stuck in dummy—he had no

way back to his hand to repeat the

The best declarer could do was to cash the ace of clubs, ruff a club and exit with a spade. That permitted

East to score three spade tricks and

the ace of diamonds for down one!

be congratulated on going down only one. Had he not endplayed East with a spade but tried to reach

the table with a diamond, he would

have suffered a two-trick defeat. However, that was little consolation

to his teammates, who found they

had lost 11 International Match Points on a hand they had estimated

Tel: 625155

In some respects, declarer could

"I talked to my father and

"I didn't have the easiest time

Zvereva in the semis.

could beat Graf again.

GOREN BRIDGE

HOW THE MIGHTY CAN FALL

xions moments.

son scored once to hoist his tally LONDON (Agencies) - Garry for the season to 29 - one more Lineker converted a Millwall misthan Marseille's Papin, leading take into a goal five minutes into marksman in the French first the second half as Tottenham

Bayern and Milan were also in winning form in their last league outings, Bayern stretching their Bundesliga lead to four points with a 3-0 win over Kaiserslautern last Thursday and Milan defeatiang Sampdoria 1-0 the following day.

division as Magnusson is in Por-

Milan, level on points with Napoli at the top of the Italian League, will once again be without suspended winger Roberto Donadoni and injured international midfield colleague Carlo Ancelotti as well as longsidelined Dutchman Raud Gullit.

Sampdoria aim for their second successive Enropean Cup-Winners' Cup final when they entertain Monaco after a 2-2 first leg draw in the Mediterranean incipality in which their striker Gianluca Vialli scored twice in three minutes later in the second

Belgium's Anderlecht, wbo ousted bolders Barcelona, defend a 1-0 first leg lead against Dinamo Bucharest in their semifinal re-

In the UEFA Cup, Fiorentina and Werder Bremen faced action in Perugia Tuesday after a 1-1 draw in West Germany, where Werder had earlier demolished holders Napoli,

Roberto Baggio signalled a timely return to form for Fiorentina with two goals in their 3-1

just a matter of keeping loose,

and they tried to set me more

CANNES, France (R) — Zim-

babwe's Mark McNulty won the

Cannes Open golf title by one

stroke from Briton Ronan Raf-

ferty Monday and moved to the

top of the European order of

McNulty, winner of the Cannes

tournament in 1988 and Monte

Carlo Open champion in 1989,

shot 71 for an eight-under-par 280

to edge out Rafferty, who lost it

with a bogev five at the final hole

Briton Mark Roe took third place, a further shot adrift on 282

after a closing round of 73, while

British overnight leader Ian

Woosnam dropped way back with a final round 77 after his shot at

the fourth hole hit a woman

and go more than £13,000 (\$21,500) ahead of Woosnam at

the top of the order of merit.

Mediterranean Open winner

Woosman led by a stroke after a third round 67 but slipped to joint-eighth place on 285, five behind McNulty, after he was

unsettled by the accident at the

The woman was taken to bos-

pital after Woosnam's overhit

second shot struck her on the

head. The ball bounced out of

bounds, costing the Welshman a

"I was unhappy at what hap-pened but I still think I should

have won. I just played badly,'

McNulty said: "I'm surprised

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to have won with a 71 but this is a

tricky course requiring great pati-

double-bogey six.

Woosnam said.

fourth.

McNulty, 36, won £50,000 (\$82,000) to push his season's carnings to £86,740 (\$143,120)

merit money list,

in a final round 69.

the holiday Monday, before a home crowd, they gave away the winning goal to Tottenham.

Gary Waddock's misdirected win over Verona at the weekend. back-pass in the 49th minute en-**Graf reaffirms supremacy** abled Lineker to sprint clear,

round Keith Branagan and score his 25th goal of the season and third goal of the weekend. At Goodison Park, goals by Ray Atteveld and Kevin Sheedy kept Everton's chances of catching the

ence and that suits my game

ideally. It's the reason why I've

won before in Cannes and on a

hole as many putts as I usually do

when I win. Pure golf consistency

through the week paid off and I

only had one .three-putt," he

Rafferty, who started Friday

with a tripple-bogey seven, took

the lead when he picked up six

"It was all a bit boring, I didn't

similar course in Monte Carlo."

scored a 1-0 vicotry Monday to

move into fourth place in the

With first-place Liverpool and

second-place Aston Villa idle, the

Sours' road victory was the high-

light of the Easter Monday card

and moved them above North

London archrival Arsenal, which

Everton tightened its hold on

third place with a 2-1 home vic-

tory over Derby. Other first-divi-

sion matches had Chelsea beating

Crystal Palace 3-0, Coventry and

Queens Park Rangers (QPR)

drawing 1-1. Manchester City

scoring a 1-0 road victory over Norwich and Nottingham Forest

At the top of the second divi-

sion, Leeds extended its advan-

tage with a 4-0 victory over Shef-field United, while Newcastle re-

placed United in the no. 2 spot

with a 3-0 victory over Stoke. The

first two teams in the second

division automatically win prom-

otion to division 1 for next

The Scottish League was idle.

Tottenham's victory was its

second in three days and finished

A loss Saturday guaranteed

that the Lions would be demoted

to division 2 next season. And on

a bad weekend for Millwall.

English soccer League.

also had the day off.

beating Luton 3-0.

scored for Derby.

Leeds entered the day leading Sheffield United atop the second division by a better goal difference. They ended it with 32,000 home fans cheering two goals by Gordon Strachan and one apiece by Lee Chapman and Gary

Newcastle, meanwhile, took over second place on two goals by Biorn Kristensen and one by Mick Oninn.

Chelsea, the division 2 champs just a year ago, continued to shine near the top of division 1. Goals by Kerry Dixon, Kevin Wilson and Graham Stuart sent Chelsea into a fifth-place tie with Arsenal, with three games left to play. Palace lost defender Gary O'Reilly on a foul in the 28th

Danny Maddix gave QPR a road draw with some bustle just before halftime. He dived to head in a cross from David Bardsley's free kick in the second minnte of injury time of the first half. Coventry took a 1-0 lead in the ninth minnte on David Smith's

Everton benefitted from a mistake by substitute goalie Martin Taylor. Ray Atteveld's lob in the 51st minnte caught Taylor out of position and gave Everton a 1-0 ead. Mark Wright's rebound of a Robert Briscoe shot tied it 1-1 10 minntes later before Kevin Sbeedy won it for Everton in the 69th minute. The victory left Everton in third place eight points ont of first with three

games to play.

Tottenham's last-season run toward the top continued at Millwall. Gary Lineker picked np a misdirected back pass and scored his 25th goal of the season just after halftime to give the Spurs their fifth consecutive victory. The victory moved Tottenham into fourth place, in front of front-runners alive. Mark Wright

Arsenal.

McNulty wins Cannes Open

birdies in the first 11 holes to go nine under par. He offset bogeys at 12 and 13 with a 25-foot birdie at the 14th but overshot the green at the last and took three to get down for a bogey five and the £ 33,300 (\$55,000) second prize.

Roe wrecked his chances of victory by missiong a succession of short putts and then burying his drive in a bunker for a bogey at the 17th.

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Tottenham moves up Olympic champions Bording Mota win Boston Marathom

the tiring Ikangaa.

BOSTON (R) — Seoul Olympic Marathon champions Gelindo Bordin of Italy and Rosa Mota of Portugal each scored decisive victories in the 94th Boston Marathon Monday.

Bordin set an Italian national record with bis time of two hours eight minutes 19 seconds that left pre-race favourite Juma Ikangaa of Tanzania second for the thrid consecutive year.

doubt as she became the first three-time winner of the women's division in the world's oldest continuing marathon in 2:25:24. "I came here to try to run, not

to break my (best) nine (2:23:29). So I am very happy," said Mota, 31, who along with Bordin earned

\$50,000. The 31-year-old Bordin, the first Italian to win in Boston, moved in front on the course's

For the first 16 miles (25.7 kilometres) Ikangaa, who lost by one second in 1983 and by 48 seconds last year, set a blistering

course-record pace heading a pack that included 1988 winner Ibrahim Hussein of Kenya and his compatriot Kipkemboi Kime-

Mota's victory was never in Buordin bad wisely opted to stay back of the pace setters at that stage of the race.

"My goal was to stay near the front pack," Bordin said. "1 didn't want to come back here four or five times to win," he said alluding to Ikangaa's repeated frustration.

Bordin began to make his move at the 17th mile (27.3 kilometres) as the course winds through Boston's suburbs toward infamous "Heartbreak Hill" after the city centre wbile Ikangaa held 20 miles (32 kilometres) and nev- a slim lead over Kimeli.

er relinquished the lead as he At the approach to Heartbreak crossed the finish 1:49 ahead of Hill, which has scuttled the hopes of many a marathoner, Bordin moved to within 30 yards (27

metres) of the Tanzanian. The steep, 2,160-foot (600)metre) incline proved too much for Ikangaa as Bordin claimed the lead 1:41 into the race while still climbing the hill.

Ikangaa, who finished in 2:09:52, said he had set out to break the 2:06:50 world record or Ethiopian Belaine Densimo, but cramped up on Heartbreak Hill.

"I was confident that I would run a 2:05 race until f got the cramp," said Ikangaa, who vowed to return to Boston until he wins bere.

Bordin said he never expected the Tanzanian could keep up the pace he had established.

"It's impossible for the Africans to finish the race at such a fast speed," Bordin said.

Brazil names World Cup squad

RIO DE JANEIRO (R) — Brazil soccer chief Sabastiao Lazaroni Monday named bis 22-man squad for the World Cup finals in Italy, six weeks before the official deadline, and said every match would

be a war. There were no surprises in the group, which consists of the plavers with whom Lazaroni has been working for the last 12 months. It contains seven survivors from the 1986 World Cup finals in

Mexico — Muller, Mozer, Branco, Careca, Silas, Alemao and Mauro Gaivao. Lazaroni said the only change would be made if PSV Eindhoven

striker Romario, who broke his leg in March, did not look like recovering in time for the competition. "Everything we have done so

far has been good but in a World Cup we bave to achieve a lot more. Every game is a decision, a war." Lazaroni told a crowded and chaotic press conference at the Brazilian Football Confederation (CBF) headquarters.

Twelve of the squad are based

with European clubs while five of the 10 others play for Rio Club Vasco, the current Brazilian champions.

Lazaroni said all 22 players were good enough to hold down a first team place.

The Brazilian press bad predicted the presence of 19 of the players for more than one month, with midfielders Tita and Bismarck and striker Renato the

only uncertainties. Lazaroni said he bad announced bis squad early to avoid a repeat of the 1986 World Cup preparation when Brazil took 24 players to Mexico and the fear of being one of the two left out created a tense atmosphere in

the squad. He also wants as long as possible with his squad before the start of the competition. Preparation begins April 23 with medical tests on the players in Rio, while training camp at the team's beadquarters in Teresopolis, a mountain resort 90 kilometres from Rio,

starts April .25. But he is unlikely to have his

entire squad together for the whole period. Several of the European-based players have club commitments after April 23 but only Silas, Jorginho, Aldair and Romario have contracts requiring their clubs to release

Careca and Alemao of Napoli are involved in the Italian league title chase, which could continue into early May, while Mozer of Marseille or Ricardo Gomes and Valdo of Benfica could be involved in the European Cur

Lazaroni said the presence of these players would depend or results and that he would study absenteeism case by case. But he said he would consider dropping players if he thought they were missing too much training.

"If a player is available only from June 3, he will be out of the World Cup. I have to get people to understand how serious it is to participate in a World Cup, and training is absolutely essential,

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Ortega increases pressure on Chamorro for contra disarming

MANAGUA (R) — Nicaraguan President Daniel Ortega has increased Sandinista pressure on President-Elect Violeta Chamorro to force the unconditional and immediate disarming of the contra rebels, hinting Monday that he was considering postponing the April 25 handover.

Orgeta's leftist Sandinista gov-Tuesday to discuss terms for a ernment has strongly rejected recent statements by hard-line contra leaders and members of Chamorro's election alliance that the rebels would remain armed in Nicaragua until cuts are made in the Sandinista army.

At a Monday news conference, Ortega said the Sandinistas were "analysing this situation" when asked if there would be a handover on April 25 if the contras were not disarmed.

"We are very close to peace and very close to war," ortega

A contra delegation was expected to arrive in Managua

ceasefire with Sandinista, Chamorro and United Nations officials. The delegation was forced to postpone the trip from Monday after a fire and explosion at a nearby air force base closed the capital's international airport for about five hours.

Diplomats in Managua say that

the Sandinistas are emphatic that the current command structure in the Sandinista army remain untouched, although they have agreed the army will be depoliticised and reduced.

In calling for the immediate disarming of the contras and shrouding the April 25 inauguration in uncertainty the Sandinistas could be hoping to force Chamorro to make a deal on the army, a senior Latin American diplomat said.

"I think there is some bluff in all this but it's impossible to say how far they are willing to go, the diplomat said.

"It's like who's going to blink first," be added.

In earlier statements in Managua and during meetings last month with U.S. Vice President Dan Quayle, Ortega has said he would hand over the government to Chamorro even if the contras were not disarmed.

The diplomat said the Sandinistas would pay a huge price if they decided not to hand over the government, losing most if not all international backing and creating huge rifts inside Nicaragua. 'No one would stay here," he

said, referring to the diplomatic

Most of the estimated 10,000 contras are now in Nicaraguan territory. Under an acord reached in March between rebel leaders and Chamorro envoys

they must move to internationally supervised enclaves for disarming after a verified ceasefire. The demobilisation accord did not set a deadline for the disarming of the rebels inside Nicaragua but Ortega Monday cited an accord signed by five Central

American leaders at a summit

earlier this month which said re-

bels inside and outside Nicaragua

must be disarmed by April 25.

About 260 Miskito Indians were the first anti-Sandinista rebels to hand over their arms to U.N. troops, doing so in southeast Honduras Monday. Rebels in the main contra hase of Yamales are due to lay down their arms Wednesday.

Soviet Moldavian parliament opens amid

tension KISHINYOV, Soviet Union (R) - Soviet Moldavia's newly elected parliament met Tuesday amid latent tension between the republic's Romanian-speaking nationalists and pro-Moscow minorities.

Both the nationalist Population Proot and the federalist Interdvizheniye Movement said the halance of forces in the 383-seat chamber would only become clear later.

Romanian-speaking Molda-vians make up about 65 per cent of the population of 4.5 million. But not even Popular Front leaders proposed following the example of Lithuania's unilateral declaration of independence.

Ethnic tension flared last November in the southwestern republic, made up largely of former Romanian territory, when radicals stormed the Interior Ministry building in the capital.

The republic is one of several on the Soviet rim where demands for more autonomy from Moscow have brought friction, in this case between ethnie Moldavians, closely related to the Romanians in the west, and Russians who moved into the public over the last four decades.

The opening session began with appeals for calm discussion and concensus, but quickly became bogged down in wrangling over whether to trust a new electronic voting system.

CAPE CANAVERAL (R) -

For the first time since the 1986

Challenger disaster, scientists are

preparing two space shuttles for

launch, prompting concern that thousands of workers are being

pushed to keep an unrealistic

flight schedule. The U.S. shnttle Columbia, on

a tighter schedule than any

spacecraft since December 1985,

is due to roll out to its launch pad

on April 22 for a May 9 launch

carrying an astronomy observa-

April 25 is the date for the

shuttle Discovery's second liftoff

attempt with the \$2.5 billion hub-

ble space telescope, after a scat-tled launch on April 10, and will

mark the first time in more than

four years that NASA workers

predicts elections in a year KATHMANDU (R) - Krishna

premier

New Nepali

Prasad Bhattarai, a former dissident named to head Nepal's interim government, said Tuesday elections in the Himalayan kingdom would be held within a year.

Bhattarai also told reporters he wanted to speed up the convening of a commission to overhaul the constitution after King Birendra abolished a partyless system of councils known as Panchayats.

On Monday the king acceded to opposition demands to sack Prime Minister Lokendra Bahadur Chand and pave the way for multi-party democracy in the Himalayan kingdom of 17 million

The king's announcement followed lengthy talks between the government and the opposition Sunday after an eight-week campaign for democracy which reached a bloody climax on April 6 when troops fired on protesters. Hospital doctors said at least 50 people were killed

The campaign, led by Bhattar-ai's Nepali Congress Party and a united left front of seven Communist factions, proved it had widespread urban support and forced the king to back down from his previously obdurate opposition to multi-party demo-

Congress officials said Bhattarai, who suggested that the voting age be lowered from 21 to 18 years, was rushing to put together by Tesuday evening the interim government to oversee elections.

They would be the first multiparty elections since parliamentary democracy was suspended in 1960 when King Mahendra, Birendra's father, dismissed the government headed by then Prime Minister B.P. Koirala and banned political parties,

The 30-year ban was lifted on April 8, two days after the shoot-

Bhattarai, 66, is a founder member of the Nepali Congress Party and has spent time in jail for agitating against the ban on political parties. He was proposed as head of the

interim administration by his party's widely-respected supreme leader, Ganesh Man Singh, 75, who turned down the job because of failing bealth. The Communist factions allied

with Congress in the democracy campaign said they would sup-port the choice. So did Birendra's

"If they have jointly decided on Krishna Bhattarai, then there is no problem (with the king)," said acting Foreign Minister Pashupati Rana, Birendra's main

WORLD NEWS IN BRIEF

Food poisoning kills 87 in India

NEW DELHI (R) — At least 87 people died after eating chapattis — unleavested bread — contaminated with pesticide at an Indian village feast and the toll was likely to rise, the Press Trust of India has reported. The news agency, monitored by the British Broadcasting Corporation (BBC), said more than 150 guests at an engagement ceremony were being treated in hospital for suspected food poisoning. Doctors said many victims in the village near Basti, 215 kilometres from the Uttar Pradesh state capital Lucknow, were children, traditionally fed first at the feasts accompanying Hindu engagement ceremonies.

Bush names new envoy to Budapest

WASHINGTON (AP) - President George Bush announced his selection of Charles H. Thomas, a career foreign service officer, to be U.S. ambassador to Hungary. Thomas, 55, most recently served as principal deputy assistant secretary of state for European and Canadian affairs. For almost a year he has been studying Hungarian in preparation for his new assignment. If confirmed by the Senate, he would replace Mark Palmer, who recently retired from the foreign service for a job in international banking. U.S. relations with Hungary have improved steadily since that nation beld democratic elections last year. Earlier this month, the United States entered into a pact with Hungary that extends to most-favoured-nation trade status to it.

Talwan, Lesotho establish ties

TAIPEI (Agencies) - Taiwan and Lesotho have established full diplomatic relations for the purpose of strengthening ties of friendship and cooperation between the two countries in conformity with the principles of international law. The two countries have further agreed to set up embassies in Taipei and Maseru at a convenient and appropriate time.

Pentagon report chides some allies, praises others

WASHINGTON (AP) - Defence Secretary Dick Cheney, in an annual report on the defence spending of NATO nations and Japan, has faulted Luxembourg, Denmark and Canada for "below par" military spending.

"The performance of this group of nations... looks substantially below par," said the report, which was released at the Defence Deparment.

However, the report noted Canada has had a "relatively good performance" in increasing defence spending in recent years, Luxembourg is an important host to allied forces, and Demmark has a "better than average" showing in other areas, such as in its active and reserve troop numbers in relation to the nation's popula-

The annual report on allied

contributions to the common defence is required by Congress. Overall, the report said, NATO nations and Japan spent about \$489 billion on defence in 1988, the last year for which common figures were available. The United States accounted for \$293 billion, or 60 per cent of that

amount, the report said. The other major spenders included: France, \$36.1 billion, 7.4 per cent; West Germany, \$35.1 billion, 7.2 per cent; Britain, \$34.7 billion, \$7.1 per cent; Japan \$28.9 billion, 5.9 per cent; Canada, \$10 billion, 2 per cent; Italy \$20.4 billion, 4.2 per cent and others, \$30.7 billion, 6.3 per cent, the report said.

Besides assessing the amount spent on defence by each nation, the reprot also attempts to look at such things as weaponry and the number of each nation's active duty and reserve forces in relations to its population.

But the report said some things are much harder to measure, such as the loss of real estate given over in order to allied troops on a nation's soil.

Nations such as Japan and West Germany are sensitive to such matters, and the report said the market value of such property in West Germany alone "has been estimated at \$24 billion." The report lauded the so-called

saying they all allocated relatively high proportions of their national income to defence. The nations that have made

"burdensharing" efforts of Tur-key, Greece, Britain and France,

"mixed efforts" included Norway, West Germany, the Netherlands, Portugal, Italy, Belgium and Spain, the report said. The report said if Japan's de-

fence spending were measured only against its high standard of living and economic output, it would also be judged "substantially below par." But the report noted Japan's contribution of 1 per cent of its so-called gross domestic output to defence puts it among the top five nations in total defence spending.

Third of New York prostitutes carry

NEW YORK (R) — One out of three prostitutes in New York is carrying the AIDS virus, accordacquired immune deficiency syndrome (AIDS) practice, tested some 950 streetwalkers. Wal-AIDS and prostitutes to date, showed that 33.7 per cent of the AIDS, which kills by stripping

memoriais

WASHINGTON (AP) — Two of \$-

Washington's most famous landmarks, the Lincoln and Jefferson

5 states reportedly expand nuclear weapons capability

WASHINGTON (AP) - Pakistan, India, Argentina, Brazil and Iraq have been able to circumvent international regulations to build or expand nuclear weapons capabilities, a research organisa-tion reported Tuesday.

To deter these practices, the report recommended that the United States and other supplier countries threaten to use economic and military sanctions as penalties

The researchers also recommended that traditional nuclear suppliers ensure rigorous enforcement of their common nuclear export guidelines. The report said West Germany has been the weak link" in the multi-lateral export control system and must enact legislation to tighten export

Titled "Nuclear Exports: The Challenge of Control," the report was prepared by the private Carnegle Endowment for Interna-

There was no immediate com-

ment from any of the embassies whose governments were men-

tioned in the report. But Iraq has denied any intention to develop nuclear weapons. The denial came three weeks ago after British investigators arrested four people allegedly trying to smuggle to Iraq a device capable of triggering a nuclear

Afterwards, U.S. President George Bush called on supplier nations to exercise "special restraint" in the export of parts that could be used to develop nuclear Of the five countries men-

tioned in the report, it said Iraq's programme was far behind those of the other nations. The report, written by Leonard

Spector with the assistance of Jacqueline Smith, said the emerging nuclear states have been able to exploit weaknesses in the nuclear export control systems of the advanced supplier states. Spector is director of the endowment's

non-proliferation project and Smith is the project assistant.

"In some instances, their agents have engaged in simple smuggling — for example, by attempting to export commodities without required export licences or by making hiatantly false declarations on export documents," the report said.

In other cases, it said, these agents have been able to minimise any suspect characteristics of the commodities at issue, taking advantage of a relaxed attitude by licensing officials or exploiting gaps in export regula-

If controls had been enforced effectively, Spector said, it is possible that "Pakistan would not be able to manufacture nuclear weapons today, that India's nuclear weapons potential would be a fraction of its current size and that neither Argentina nor Brazil would have facilities capable of producing nuclear weapons mate-

Vargas Llosa stays in

Vargas Liosa has said be would contest the final round of Peru's presidential election, ending spe-culation that he would quit in the face of mounting support for his

"I will go to the second round centre-rightist, said in a state-

dent and thinking of dropping out after Fujimori surprised the na-tion by coming within four per-centage points of beating Vargas

Support for Fujimori is spreading and most political analysts sav round of elections on May 27 or

confernce called to announce his political platform.

nalists her husband had become sick after eating a contaminated codfish, causing acne to break out over his face. "My husband will not be able to attend... he is suffering from severe food intoxication," she said.

affect Fujimori's candidature. Fujimori, a mild-mannered former university rector, had been

scheduled to announce his longawaited electoral platform at the news conference.

nine candidates in the first round of elections who did not issue a political platform, Fujimori has defined himself as a probusinesses centrist.

race so as not to "defraud the millions of compatriots who voted for us" and because the constitution required it. He declined to speak to reporters after issuing the statement.

Whoever wins the presidency will lead a country drained by leftist guerrilla violence in which over 17,000 people have died.

have had to divide their time between shuttles on both launch

Concern voiced over double-shuttle schedule

The double duty became necessary when the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) delayed the launch of Discovery so technicians could replace a faulty power steering unit in the shuttle and recharge batteries aboard the telescope.

The 40-kilogramme unit was replaced Sunday and was expected to be tested Tuesday. The two 200-kilogramme hattery packs were removed from the telescope for recharging

gear added to the unexpected

Saturday.

A cracked, leaking hydraulic line in Columbia's nose landing

weekend work. Technicians had to replace the line before they could tow Columbia into its assembly building Monday to be hooked to a fuel tank and two

booster rockets for launch. If all goes as planned, Columbia will spend only six days instead of the usual seven to 10 inside its assembly building and only 20 days instead of the usual 21 to 28 on the launch pad before liftoff.

"Everyone was wondering how they were going to handle it when they had to operate two hot pads simultaneously," said Robert Hotz, a member of the presidential commission that investigated the explosion of the shuttle Chal-

The commission listed excessive overtime and worker fatigue among the problems at the Kennedy space centre which it ordered NASA to solve.

"You can't fault them for trying, but they don't seem to have a handle on it yet," Hotz said.

But NASA said there was nothing to worry about.
"It's just an ambitious, succe oriented time line," said NASA

spokeswoman Lisa Malone. "I'm not sure about the May 9 date, but we don't have any hesitation about going to the pad and working in parallel," John Talone, a shuttle processing chief, told a recent news conference.

U.S.-Soviet mission to Mars 'too risky now'

WASHINGTON (AP) — Joint missions to Mars by the United States and the Soviet Union are too risky now, but independent coordinated exploration should continue, a panel said Monday.

"The United States and USSR have no prior experience with the degree of cooperation necessary to carry out a technical project of this complexity or magnitude," said a committee of the National Research Council (NRC).

The committee said it was concerned "about relying on the consistency of the relationship over a period of a deacde or more into the future." With its report, the panel chil-

led the idea frequently expressed by many experts that Mars would be explored jointly by the Soviets and Americans, thus doing together what would be too expensive for either nation to do

The U.S. and the Soviets have cooperated in space in the past, most notably in 1975 when three astronauts aboard an Apollo spacecraft joined their ship with a Soviet Soyuz and exchanged bear langs in obrbit with its two cosmo-

by NASA to look into undertakinig missions with international partners to gather rocks and soil from Mars, using robots, and returning them to earth for analysis. The committee concentrated its study on efforts by the U.S and USSR because they are the only

The Soviets have said they intend to explore Mars with robotic rovers, space probes orbiting overhead and by returned samples. A scenario often mentioned is that one nation would build a lander and a sample-return vehicle while the other would develop a roving vehicle for collecting samples and

analysing them. Detailed Mars investigations would include robotic missions at four to six selected sites over a number of years. The committee said its recommended approach "would allow a graceful path to increasingly close levels of coop-

dered three levels of U.S. parti-

Mars venture, reaching these conclusions:

ring technology to the Soviets.

take separate responsibilities on a joint project, it "would have a greater, presumably positive im-pact on U.S.-Soviet relations than would options involving lesser degrees of interactions and reliance," the committee said.

nations to share costs while increasing returns and take advantage of the best of both nations'

capability.

But a mission with high dependence on cooperative efforts "would sit as a potential hostage said the committee."

The third possibility considered tion programme - would have both sides working together on all stages of a project with "their own self-contained and indepen-

In that scenario, there would be cooperation in analysing reterns and the cost would be cut in half because each side would need to commit to only half of the needed missions, according to the committee. In addition, "there would be no risk of mission inilure due to technical, management or political failures."

Although there is a danger that the cooperation could "deterio-

TV makes U.S. children fat and violent, doctors say

CHICAGO (R) — Children in the United States spend more time watching television than doing anything else but sleeping, and are becoming fat and violent as a result, the American Academy of Pediatrics said Monday. "Sufficient data have accumulated to warrant the conclusion that protracted television viewing is one cause of violent or aggressive behaviour," the group said. 'Television viewing also contributes substantially to obesity." The doctors made the comments in a policy statement published in the April issue of the American Academy of Pediatrics News. "In 1989 the average child in the United States still spent more time watching television than any other activity except sleeping" — about 25 hours per week — the group said. "The many implicit and explicit messages on television that promote alcohol consumption and promiscuous or unprotected sexual behaviour are also a cause for concern," it added. The group said parents should restrict their children to one or twohours of TV viewing per day and encourage them to read and participate

Garbo funeral to be private

in athletics.

NEW YORK (AP) - As enigmatic in death as she was in life, Greta Garbo died a rich woman but left no will, according to a newspaper report Tuesday. Her frugal ways and good financial advice built the reclusive star's holdings into a fortune, in according to the New York Post, which reported she owned several buildings in Beverly Hills, an extensive art collection and her New York home. Her only relative is her niece, Grae Reisfeld of Passaic, New Jersey, who also fiercely guards her privacy, the Post said. Officials at New York Hospital — where the husky-voiced actress died Sunday at age 84 - said Monday that funeral services would be private. "Private means private and everyone should respect her wishes," said longtime friend and neighbour Ben Buttenweiser. "It makes scuse that she would have wanted it that way, otherwise you'd a States army on hand to keep everyhody out." Hospital spokesowman Myrna Manners said Garbo had been a kidney dialysis patient, but at the family's request she released no other information. The medical examiner's office told the Post that Garbo's body would be cre-

AIDS virus'

ing to results of a new study. The results are preliminary, but if confirmed by formal review they would reflect one of the highest rates of AIDS infection ever found among prostitutes in the study, by Dr. Joyce Wallace, a Manhattan physician with a large lace's study, the largest test of women were infected. Almost all were intravenous drug users. away the body's defences against disease, is known to be spread by sexual intercourse and sharing of blood-tainted needles.

Lincoln, Jefferson crumbling

memorials, are succumbing to water seepage, air pollution, lit-tering tourists and a pesky little bug called the midge, experts saya. Private consultants hired by the National Park Service say the worst problem was found at the 68-year-old memorial honouring President Ahraham Lincoln. Dripping rainwater has caused deterioration of huge concrete slabs that support a broad cobblestone walkway and the grassy terrace surrounding the building. This week officials started an experimental one-hour delay in mighttime lighting of the Lincoln at Memorial in an attempt to discourage a messy infestation of midges, small winged insects that breed in the muddy flats of the nearby Potomac River.

Berlin market draws Poles by the thousands WEST BERLIN (AP) - Even the Easter holidays didn't stop thousands of Poles from streaming into West Berlin - some to

shop, others to sell. The influx of Poles to West Berlin, one of the few Western European places they can visit without visas, has increased dramatically since the Polish zloty became a convertible currency in January. City officials say more than a million Poles have visited since January.

Many of them head for a muddy, littered field near Potsdamer Platz known as the "Polish market" - a ragtag bazaar where Poles sell whatever they can bring from home — caviar smuggled out of the Soviet Union, farm fresh eggs and bacon, untaxed cigarettes and Polish vodka.

It is both an introduction to free-market practices and a crucial source of income for Poles weathering their country's radical economic changes. "Who knows how long I'll have a joh. I'm sure the company

will go bust hy June," said Krzysztof Goral, a bus driver from Poznan, as he tried to sell a pair of mounted deer antiers for 15 "We've got to try to earn while we can, said his brother Marck, an electrician, who watched over a pile of chocolates and

Every Friday they take an evening train on the 331-kilometre trip to East Berlin. Upon arrival, they stay up all night in order to avoid a hotel bill, then cross into West Berlin to stake out a spot at the market early in the morning.

Many other Polish visitors sleep in their cars, tour buses or try

wooden-handled screwdrivers the brothers also had for sale.

The Goral brothers are regulars at the Polish market.

to camp in the 200 train station.

Those habits, along with the wide-open trading at the market, appall many Berliners who would like the city government to do

something to stop the flow.

Poles call it business: Germans call it smuggling. Officials have recorded more than 26,000 customs violations since the year began.

The amount of confiscated goods, mostly from Poles, is "no longer conceivable," said the Berlin Morgenpost newspaper.

More than 1.5 million cigarettes have been confiscated at the

market since January, the newspaper reported.

Despite the discomforts of travel and the threat of fines and confiscation, many Poles find the market essential. "Things are hard in Poland, I've got two kids and no joh. I've got to make a living," said Stanislaw Neuman of Wroclaw. Neuman lost hos job last month as a bus driver as a part of the radical economic reform plan that ended state subsidies and left

over 200,000 unemployed since it took effect Jan. 1. His hlanket covered with Polish shaving creme, plastic combs, used clothes and hand tools, Neuman hoped to earn a few marks that can be exchanged for zlotys to be spent at home.

Although Neuman was selling items for low prices, his mark-ups would make many merchants envious. Among his goods was a comh that he had bought for 1,000 zlotys (about 10 cents); be later sold it for the equivalent of 3,000 zlotys (30 cents). He also earned 13 marks (77,185 zlotys), nearly one-sixth of what he earned each month as a bus driver, for a used pair of high heels sold to a Turkish customer."

Other Poles come to spend, rather than sell. "We don't have these kind of things in Poland," confided Henryk Stachowicz, a coal miner from Zabrze, pointing proudly to two new electronic keyboard instruments he had just purch-He said he could get 850,000 zlotys (\$89) in Poland for each

(\$69) apiece. Unshaven and dressed in wrinkled clothes, Stachowicz and the other 36 passengers who paid 140,000 zlotys (\$14.7) for a round-trip bus ticket, slept in their tour hus in a West Berlin parking lot rather than pay for a hotel.

The coal miner denied he planned to resell the keyboards and

keyboard, which he purchased for the equivalent of 660,000 zlotys

near Postdamer Platz, the former hub of Berlin before World War "Stand there and sell stuff. That's not for me. I have a job.

There is just nothing to buy in Poland," he said.

insisted he would never do husiness at the Polish market located

Peruvian presidential

LIMA (R) — Novelist Mario

opponent Alberto Fujimori. struggling for the reforms our country needs," Vargas Llosa, a

The local press had reported that Vargas Llosa was despon-

Llosa in the first round on April the son of Japanese immigrants is the favourite to win the final

But as Vargas Llosa lifted the doubts about his candidacy, Fu-jimori abruptly cancelled a press

His wife, Susana, told the jour-

There was no suggestion, however, that the illness would

Though he was the only one of

Vargas Llosa said he had been ready to quit his candidacy "to spare Peru the difficulties and delays of a second round in this moment of grave national crisis."
But he said he would stay in the

The NRC committee was asked

the lead role in a Mars prog-

nations in a position to take on

The committee said it consi-

cipation with the Soviets in a

In the case of each country conducting programmes independently, the panel concluded that the cost would be too high, the returns would be less than maximum. U.S. technology would benefit greatly and there would be no additional risk of transfer-

In addition, the committee said it would make no contribution to U.S.-Soviet experience in technical and social endeavours and "it could also ignite a space competition similar to the race to the If both nations were to under-

· Such a venture would allow the space programmes, such as the

Soviets' lead in heavy-lift launch

to political events that might disrupt communications and interaction between the two nations," - a highly coordinated explora-

dently designed missions."

rate into a race for Mars," the committee said, if the schedule is planned and paced properly, the competition might even be belpful.